

**FINAL**

***Perfluorinated Compounds  
Preliminary Assessment***

***Former O'Hare Air Reserve Station, IL***

**Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release  
Determination at Multiple BRAC Bases**



**April 2016**

**Contract FA8903-08-D-8766  
Task Order 0177**

***Prepared for:***

**Air Force Civil Engineer Center  
JBSA Lackland, Texas  
4PAE08 Contract**

***Submitted by:***



**FINAL**

**PERFLUORINATED COMPOUNDS PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT**

**FORMER O'HARE AIR RESERVE STATION  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

**PROJECT NO. DPNB20147242**

**Prepared for:**

**Air Force Civil Engineer Center  
Joint Base San Antonio – Lackland, Texas**



**Prepared by:**



**Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.**

**Contract FA8903-08-D-8766**

**Task Order 0177**

**April 2016**



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER CENTER

April 7, 2016

AFCEC/CIBE  
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Ms. Charlene Falco  
Remedial Project Manager  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
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Re: FINAL Perfluorinated Compounds Preliminary Assessment, Former O'Hare Air Reserve Station, Chicago, Illinois

Ms. Falco,

Attached for your files is the *Final Perfluorinated Compounds Preliminary Assessment, Former O'Hare Air Reserve Station, IL (PA)*. The PA presents findings from our recent records review and interview process aimed at identifying potential PFC releases across the former installation. No comments were received regarding the DRAFT PA.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (207) 328-7109 or [david.strainge@us.af.mil](mailto:david.strainge@us.af.mil).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Strange".

DAVID STRAINGE, GM-13, DAF  
BRAC Environmental Coordinator  
AFCEC/CIBE - Loring

Attachment: FINAL Preliminary Assessment Report

cc: Karen Mason-Smith, USEPA, Region V  
Billy Claxton, AFCEC/CIBE  
David Farnsworth, AFCEC/CIBE

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## ACRONYMS

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AF	Air Force
AFB	Air Force Base
AFBU	Air Force Base Unit
AFBCA	Air Force Base Conversion Agency
AFCEC	Air Force Civil Engineer Center
AFFF	Aqueous Film Forming Foam
AFHRA	Air Force Historical Research Agency
AFRCTC	Airport Reserve Combat Training Center
AFSAS	Air Force Safety Automated System
AFSEC	Air Force Safety Center
Amec Foster Wheeler	Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
amsl	above mean sea level
AR	Administrative Record
ARFF	Air Reserve Forces Facility
ARS	Air Reserve Station
ARW	Air Refueling Wing
AST	Aboveground Storage Tank
AW	Air Wing
BEC	BRAC Environmental Coordinator
bgs	Below Ground Surface
BAH	Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc.
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	Crash, Fire, and Rescue
DoDI	Department of Defense Instruction
DOW	Department of Water
DR	Document Repository
EBS	Environmental Baseline Survey
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ER	Environmental Report
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FPM	FPM Remediations, Inc.
ft	feet or foot
FPTA	Fire Protection Training Area
FTA	Fire Training Area
HARZA	HARZA Consulting Engineers and Scientists
ILANG	Illinois Air National Guard
IEPA	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
IRP	Installation Restoration Program
JP	Jet Propellant
LUC/IC	Land Use Controls/Industrial Controls
msl	Mean Sea Level

NRCS	National Resource Conservation Service
NWI	National Wetland Inventory
OIA	O'Hare International Airport
OMP	O'Hare Modernization Program
ORD	Orchard Place Airport
OWS	Oil Water Separator
PA	Preliminary Assessment
PFC	Perfluorinated Compounds
PFOA	Perfluorooctanoic Acid
PFOS	Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid
POL	Petroleum, Oil, and Lubricants
ROD	Record of Decision
TO	Task Order
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USAF	United States Air Force
USDOT	United States Department of Transportation
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	United State Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
UST	Underground Storage Tank
UWBZ	Upper Water Bearing Zone



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Perfluorinated Compounds (PFC) Preliminary Assessment (PA) provides findings from research conducted to determine whether and where aqueous film forming foam (AFFF), containing PFCs, was stored, handled, used or released at the former O'Hare Air Reserve Station (ARS), located in Chicago, Illinois. Research was conducted for the years 1970 through the installation closure in July 1999 using: 1) personnel interviews; 2) online research of the Administrative Record (AR) and other general search engines; 3) documents requested and provided by the Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC), and 4) archival research at the Air Force Historical Research Agency (AFHRA) and the Air Force Safety Center (AFSEC). Information obtained during the research was evaluated to determine if AFFF storage, handling, use or release areas, hereafter referred to as "AFFF areas," are located on the former O'Hare ARS. Potential AFFF areas may include:

- crash sites/aircraft fires;
- fire training areas (FTAs) used after 1970;
- areas with underground storage tanks (USTs), aboveground storage tanks (ASTs), drums, buckets, etc. where virgin or spent AFFF was stored with or without secondary containment;
- areas where AFFF use or release was documented via personnel interviews, environmental reports, electronic or print media, etc.; and,
- areas where AFFF was handled, used/released indoors.

Based on the research conducted, twelve AFFF areas were identified at former O'Hare ARS that may potentially require further action; however, all of the identified buildings no longer exist and major redevelopment of the former O'Hare ARS is ongoing under the O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP):

- 1) Former Building 17 (Band Center - Original Fire Station): Facility stored five-gallon buckets of AFFF for use in Air Reserve Forces Facility (ARFF) trucks; however, no AFFF releases were documented.
- 2) Former Building 32 (Base Supply Warehouse): Facility stored 55-gallon drums of AFFF in an outside fenced storage area and inside the building; however, no AFFF releases were documented.
- 3) Former Building 35 (Fuel Cell Repair Shop - Satellite Accumulation Point): Facility stored anti-explosion foam; however, no AFFF releases were documented.
- 4) Former Building 43 (Hangar): Facility maintained an AFFF fire suppression system from 1993 through base closure, and AFFF may have been released during initial system testing.
- 5) Former Building 55 (Base Pavement and Grounds Facility): Facility stored five barrels of AFFF as noted during a 1999 personal property inventory conducted prior to transfer of the former base to the city of Chicago in July 1999.
- 6) Former Building 56 (Vehicle Operations Heated Parking Facility - Cover Storage): Eight to ten gallons of foam/water mixture were spilled on the west side of the building on 1 August 1994, which was reportedly contained and cleaned with absorbent materials (SPL-56).

- 7) Former Building 57 (Base Warehouse Supply): Facility stored leftover stock from Building 63 (Fire Station), which may have included AFFF.
- 8) Former Building 63 (Fire Station): Facility contained a 1,000 gallon AFFF AST, a 6,000 gallon AFFF AST, a 375 gallon steel AFFF tank, a 600 gallon steel AFFF tank, and a foam trailer, and four ARFF trucks were stored and washed inside and outside of this building. Three spills of AFFF were documented at this facility in 1994.
- 9) Former Building 81 (928th Supply Warehouse): Facility maintained an AFFF fire suppression system from 1992 through base closure, and AFFF may have been released during initial system testing.
- 10) Former Building 2917 (Liquid Fuel Fill Stand): Facility maintained a foam fire suppression system from 1993 through base closure, and AFFF may have been released during initial system testing.
- 11) Flightline Apron (SPL-2501-49): 45 gallons of AFFF/water mixture were spilled south of the flightline parking area on 16 July 1994, and reportedly recovered.
- 12) Former Drum Accumulation Area (OTH-2531-2): Facility temporarily stored AFFF during construction/renovation activities conducted at the former base from approximately the mid-1980s through the early 1990s.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Preliminary Assessment (PA) for the former O'Hare Air Reserve Station (ARS) has been prepared by Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. (Amec Foster Wheeler)<sup>1</sup> on behalf of the Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC) under Contract No. FA8903-08-D-8766, Task Order (TO) 0177, PFCs Release Determination at Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Installations. The research is being conducted as part of United States Air Force (USAF) enterprise-wide response to possible release of PFCs per Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 4715.18, Emerging Contaminants, in general accordance with Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). Furthermore, all research is being conducted proactively by the USAF outside of any regulatory requirements. This report provides findings from research conducted to determine whether and where aqueous film forming foam (AFFF), containing PFCs, was stored, handled, used or released at the former O'Hare ARS, located in Chicago, Illinois (**Figure 1**).

### 1.1 Background

PFCs are a large group of synthetic fluorinated compounds that are widely used to make everyday products more resistant to heat, stains, grease, and water. PFCs are also components in firefighting foams. The chemical structures of PFCs make them resistant to natural environmental degradation. Due to their persistence in the environment, bioaccumulation potential, and toxicity, PFCs have a potential impact on human health and the environment. Currently, PFCs are not regulated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) or the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA); however, the USEPA has recently developed provisional health advisories for two PFCs (perfluorooctane sulfonic acid [PFOS] and perfluorooctanoic acid [PFOA]) to protect against potential exposure risk through drinking water (USEPA, 2009).

Several Federal government documents confirm the initial use of AFFF by the USAF beginning in 1970:

- Military Specification for AFFF (MIL-F-24385), formally issued in 1969;
- General Accounting Office determination on sole source award protest to provide AFFF to the Navy in December 1969; and,
- A History of USAF Fire Protection Training at Chanute Air Force Base, 1964-1976 (Coates, 1977).

The USAF began purchasing and using AFFF containing PFCs (PFOS and/or PFOA) for extinguishing petroleum fires and firefighting training activities in 1970 (USAF, 2012). AFFF was used at USAF installations in and around fire training areas (FTAs). AFFF could also have been used at other areas within installations, such as in and around hangars that had AFFF fire suppression systems, plane crash and fire emergency response sites, firefighting equipment testing areas, wash racks, areas where fire trucks and/or emergency vehicles were washed, and AFFF storage areas.

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<sup>1</sup> AMEC Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. changed its name on 1 January 2015 to Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc., to reflect AMEC's acquisition of Foster Wheeler. Contract FA8903-08-D-8766 was modified on 26 March 2015 to reflect the name change. All resource documents created under AMEC Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. remain in place and are executed under Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.

## **1.2 Objective**

The objective of the PFC PA is to identify areas where AFFF was potentially stored, handled, used or released within the former O'Hare ARS to aid the USAF in exercising due diligence to protect human health and the environment. For the purposes of this report, areas where AFFF was stored, handled, used or released are referred to as "AFFF areas." The word "release" in this report refers to areas where AFFF was intentionally or unintentionally discharged.

This PFC PA focuses on other potential AFFF areas, presents results from the research and evaluation of potential use of AFFF at the former O'Hare ARS, and concludes whether a reasonable basis exists to suspect PFC presence.

## **1.3 Scope**

To achieve the aforementioned objectives, research was conducted using: 1) personnel interviews; 2) online research of the Administrative Record (AR) and other general search engines; 3) documents requested and provided by AFCEC, and 4) archival research at the Air Force Historical Research Agency (AFHRA) and the Air Force Safety Center (AFSEC). Research was conducted to find information on AFFF areas at the former O'Hare ARS for the years 1970 through the installation closure. Limited information was also obtained regarding the potential use of AFFF after installation closure, and is provided in **Appendix A**.

## 2.0 INSTALLATION DESCRIPTION

The former O'Hare ARS is located in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, and occupied approximately 352 acres in the northeast corner of the O'Hare International Airport (OIA) (**Figure 1**). The station was in operation from October 1942 through July 1999, and was subsequently transferred to the city of Chicago for use by OIA (**Figure 2**) (HARZA Consulting Engineers and Scientists [HARZA], 1997).

### 2.1 Former Mission and Land Use

The land for the former O'Hare ARS was part of Orchard Place, a small farming community settled by German immigrants and New England Pioneers in the 1840s and developed into a railroad stop in 1887. The station was activated in 1942 for use as an aircraft assembly plant and was originally called Orchard Place Airport (ORD). The government converted the former farmland into an aircraft assembly plant by the addition of a power house, personnel office, cafeteria, administration building, maintenance garage, assembly building, hangar, paint shop, and paint storage building. Because of its proximity to a railroad stop, the station was leased to Douglas Aircraft Company in 1943 as an assembly plant for C-54 cargo aircraft and called the Chicago Aircraft Assembly Plant Number 8 (HARZA, 1997; Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc. [BAH], 2007).

The station was controlled by the 803rd Army Air Force Reserve Specialized Depot in 1946, and used by the 141st<sup>st</sup> Air Force Base Unit (AFBU) for reserve training. During this time, the station was known as the Douglas-Orchard Airport. The 247st Air Force Reserve Combat Training Center (AFRCTC) replaced the 141st AFBU in 1948 and remained the supervisory unit until 1950. In 1949, the 437th and 441st Troop Carrier Wings Reserve were activated and the station was renamed USAF O'Hare Field, Chicago International Airport. The airfields were opened to commercial traffic in 1955, and in 1958 the 928th Air Wing (AW) became the supervisory unit. The 928th AW used the Fairchild C-119 Flying Boxcar and, in 1970, began using the C-130A Hercules. Three periods of major construction occurred at the facility from 1965 to 1968, 1976 to 1978, and 1985 to 1989, during which time numerous buildings were added (HARZA, 1997). O'Hare ARS shared the runway with the OIA until station closure. Runway 9R/27L was opened in late 1967 and Runway 4R/22L was dedicated in 1971. Major tenants of the former O'Hare ARS included the Illinois Air National Guard (ILANG) and its assigned units, including the 126th Air Refueling Wing (ARW), the 217th Electronic Installation Squadron, the 264th Combat Communications Squadron, and the 566th Air Force Band. The Defense Logistics Agency was also based at the former O'Hare ARS (HARZA, 1997).

O'Hare ARS historically contained four FTAs/fire protection training areas (FPTAs): FPTA (Installation Restoration Program [IRP] Site FT-03), Suspected Former FTA (OTH-FT), and two Former FPTAs. IRP Site FT-03 is located outside the former O'Hare ARS BRAC property near the southeast boundary and operated from approximately 1955 through the early 1960s (**Figure 2**). It consisted of a 100-foot (ft)-diameter clay pit surrounded by an earthen berm. Combustible materials, including aviation and automobile gasoline, waste oil, kerosene, solvents, and hydraulic fluid were burned in the pit. The site was covered with construction debris and wood upon cessation of tire training activities. This area was transferred to the city of Chicago in 1990 as part of a land exchange agreement. The Suspected Former FTA (OTH-FT) was reportedly used for fire training from 1955 through the early 1960s in the area of Landfill 1 (**Figure 2**). The

two Former FPTAs were located on OIA property to the northwest of the former O'Hare ARS under a joint training agreement and used from the early 1960s through at least the 1980s. The first Former FPTA was reportedly located just north of Higgins Road and the second Former FPTA was located one mile to the south of the first FPTA; however, the exact locations were not specified (Engineering-Science, 1983). IRP Site FT-03 and OTH-FT were closed prior to the USAFs introduction of AFFF in 1970 and, as such, are not considered to be potential AFFF areas. The Former FPTAs are also not considered as potential AFFF areas under this PA since they are located on property transferred to the city of Chicago in 1990 and not part of the 1999 BRAC action.

The station was added to the approved closure list as part of the 1995 round of BRAC. The 92th Air Lift Wing was deactivated in 1997 and the 126th ARW was designated as the host unit until closure of the station in July 1999. The Air Force Base Conversion Agency (AFBCA) was responsible for environmental cleanup and property disposal (BAH, 2007).

## **2.2 Current Land Use and Property Information**

The former O'Hare ARS was transferred to the city of Chicago after station closure in 1999 for use by the OIA. The former station is undergoing extensive reconstruction under Chicago's O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP), whereby the OIA is expanding eastward into the footprint of the former station. As a result, the majority of the original buildings and structures at the former O'Hare ARS have been demolished, except for Building 4 (Claxton, 2015). Long-term objectives include transforming the O'Hare ARS airfield from an intersecting runway system into a parallel runway system, and utilizing the remainder of the former station for various airport support facilities. The construction is scheduled to be completed in 2015 and is in compliance with approved Land Use Controls/Industrial Controls (LUC/ICs) for the former station (FPM Remediations, Inc. [FPM], 2013).

Land use for the former station and surrounding area is industrial/commercial and is unlikely to change. Agricultural and residential use of the property is prohibited by the land use deed restrictions placed on the property during transfer to the city of Chicago (FPM, 2013).

## **2.3 Environmental Data**

The following sections describe the environmental characteristics of the installation.

### **2.3.1 Geology and Soils**

The former O'Hare ARS is located in the Chicago Lake Plain physiographic province which is characterized as a flat plain that was once the bottom of ancestral Lake Chicago. The physiography of the region is the result of Pleistocene age, notably the Wisconsinan, glaciation that carved out Lake Michigan, which lies to the east. Soils in this area are mapped as glacio-lacustrine deposits consisting of poorly drained lake clay and silt, and lake sand and gravel. Clayey till of the Wedron Formation also is present as moraines (United States Geological Survey [USGS], 2015).

Topographic relief across the former installation is approximately 15 feet (ft), with elevations ranging from approximately 635 ft above mean sea level (amsl) in the east to approximately 650 ft amsl to the north of

the station. The former station slopes gently to the northeast towards the Des Plaines River, and is surrounded by low plains to the east and a poorly drained hilly area to the west (HARZA, 1997).

Unconsolidated glacial deposits of Quaternary age underlie the former station to depths of approximately 70 to 85 ft below ground surface (bgs) and thicken to the north. Bedrock exposures are only noted in major river valleys such as the nearby Des Plaines River. The unconsolidated glacial deposits consist of relatively uniform clayey till with sand and gravel, and contain discontinuous lenses of silt and sand that are generally less than 1 ft thick, but have been encountered up to 10 ft (FPM, 2013).

The glacial deposits are underlain by layered sedimentary rock units of Silurian, Ordovician, and Cambrian age, respectively. The underlying Silurian and Ordovician units dip gently to the east and consist predominantly of dolomite interbedded with shale and sandstone. The uppermost Silurian formation is composed of the Niagara Dolomite, which is a dense dolomite with many joints and solution channels with a thickness of approximately 135 ft. The underlying Ordovician formations are composed of, in descending order, the Maquoketa Shale (approximately 230 ft thick); the Galena Dolomite, Decorah Formation and Platteville Formation (approximately 320 ft thick); and the Glenwood Formation and St. Peter Sandstone (approximately 145 feet thick), and the Prairie du Chien Group (approximately 95 ft thick). The deeper and older Cambrian units are predominantly sandstone and also dip gently to the east. The Cambrian units are comprised, in descending order, of the Trempealeau Formation (approximately 125 ft thick); the Franconia Formation (approximately 90 ft thick); the Ironton Sandstone and Galesville Formations (approximately 200 ft thick), the Eau Clair Formation (approximately 235 to 450 ft thick); and, the Mt Simon Sandstone (approximately 2,000 ft thick). Precambrian crystalline rock underlies the sedimentary units and lies at an estimated depth of 4,000 ft below mean sea level (HARZA, 1997).

### **2.3.2 Surface Water**

No surface water bodies are located on the former O'Hare ARS, and the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) wetland inventory maps did not indicate the presence of designated wetlands on the former station. The northern and eastern portions of the former O'Hare ARS are located within the 100-year floodplain of Willow Creek, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood insurance rate maps (HARZA, 1997).

Stormwater drainage at former O'Hare ARS is directed through a stormwater drainage system and two open drainage ditches to Willow Creek, located approximately 350 ft north and 1,300 ft east of the former station (**Figure 2**). Runoff from OIA and surrounding properties also discharges to these open drainage ditches (FPM, 2013). Willow Creek is a 6.1 mile modified earthen channel that discharges to the Des Plaines River approximately one mile to the east near Highway 72 (HARZA, 1997).

### **2.3.3 Groundwater**

Three groundwater aquifers have been identified beneath the former O'Hare ARS, including the glacial drift, shallow dolomite of Silurian age, and the Ordovician-Cambrian sandstones. The upper water-bearing zone (UWBZ) is located within the glacial drift that is located in the 70 to 85 ft of unconsolidated material found beneath the former station. Groundwater in the glacial drift may be encountered as

shallow as 10 to 20 ft bgs; however, flow is variable due to the nature of the discontinuous sand and silt lenses. Regional groundwater flow in the glacial drift is to the east toward the Des Plaines River (FPM, 2013).

The UWBZ is hydraulically connected to the underlying Silurian age dolomite bedrock. This aquifer is approximately 135 ft thick and groundwater is generally present in joints and solution channels. Groundwater elevations and flow in the dolomite aquifer are not known beneath the former station, but regional flow in the aquifer is to the east toward Lake Michigan. The deep aquifer is separated from the overlying UWBZ and dolomite aquifer by approximately 230 ft of impermeable Maquoketa Shale. Groundwater flow in the deep aquifer is primarily through water-bearing dolomites and sandstones, and is the primary drinking water source for the area (FPM, 2013).

#### **2.3.4 Drinking Water Supply**

Drinking water was supplied to the former O'Hare ARS and surrounding area by the city of Chicago, Department of Water (DOW). The City of Chicago DOW obtains water from Lake Michigan through numerous facilities that include two water purification plants, three active intake cribs and tunnels that convey water from Lake Michigan to the plants, three treated water tunnel systems that distribute purified water to local pumping stations, and twelve potable water pumping stations (HAZRA, 2007).

Groundwater use within the former O'Hare ARS, city of Chicago, Village of Rosemont, and city of Des Plaines is prohibited. A groundwater restriction was included in the deed for the former station upon transfer to the city of Chicago. A restrictive covenant was placed on the former station by the City of Chicago, on behalf of the USAF, to prohibit future use of groundwater as potable or non-potable water sources (FPM, 2013).

#### **2.3.5 Biological/Ecological Profile**

Limited habitat exists on or near the former O'Hare ARS, since the majority of the station has been altered by human activities and is covered by buildings, pavement, and mowed lawns. The former O'Hare ARS is unlikely to contain breeding areas or crucial habitat for migratory birds or shelter for wildlife; however, the former station and immediate surrounding area is located within the range of federal and/or state threatened or endangered species as follows:

- Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) – Federal and State-listed Endangered;
- Black tern (*Chlidonias niger*) – State Endangered;
- Peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) – Federal and State-listed Endangered;
- Upland sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) – State Endangered;
- Marsh hawk or Northern harrier (*Circus Cyaneus*) – State Endangered;
- Pied-billed grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) – State Threatened;
- Long-eared owl (*Asio Otus*) – State Endangered;
- Upland sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) – State Endangered;
- Sandhill crane (*Grus canadensis*) – State Endangered;
- American bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) – State Endangered;
- Great egret (*Ardea Alba*) – State Threatened;
- Wilson's phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*) – State Endangered;



- Black-crowned night-heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) – State Endangered; and
- Early fen sedge (*Carex crawei*) – State Threatened.

Black terns have been reported at former O'Hare ARS, which are a Category 2 candidate species according to the United State Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). One endangered animal species (Indiana bat) has been observed as transient species in Cook County, and three bird species have been observed as migratory or transient species, including the upland sandpiper, marsh hawk, and peregrine falcon. A field survey indicated a small stand of the state-threatened early fen sedge in a wetland area located approximately 0.8 miles from the former station; however, no other state or federally listed endangered or threaten species are known to occur in the immediate vicinity of the former station (United States Department of Transportation [USDOT], 1984; HARZA, 1997).

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### **3.0      PREVIOUS PFC INVESTIGATIONS**

No previous PFC investigations have been conducted at the installation.

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## 4.0 RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

To initiate the research process, a general PFC information questionnaire for former O'Hare ARS was completed by Mr. David Strainge, the BRAC Environmental Coordinator (BEC) for the installation. This completed questionnaire provided general information on the installation and is included in **Appendix B**. The information provided includes: a summary of AFFF storage areas, hangars with AFFF fire suppression systems, and information pertaining to calibration and washing of fire department trucks and vehicles.

The following sections describe the research conducted through record and document reviews and interviews.

### 4.1 Summary of Interviews

Amec Foster Wheeler conducted four interviews of past and present installation employees as part of this research project. The employees were interviewed by telephone to document their knowledge of former AFFF use at O'Hare ARS. A summary of the interviewees (name, title, date and interview relevance) is provided in **Table 1**, and information obtained from the interviews is documented on the PFC General Questionnaire provided in **Appendix B**, and Telephone Interview Logs provided in **Appendix C**.

**Table 1: Summary of Interviews**

Person Interviewed	Title	Interview Date(s)	Relevance of Interview
David Strainge	BEC	21 May 2015	No pertinent information.
Dennis Claxton	Assistant Fire Chief, O'Hare ARS (1974-1 July 1997)	5 and 8 June 2015	Knowledge of use of AFFF at the Fire Station, storage of AFFF, and washing and calibration of ARFF trucks.
Bob Meade	Chief Master Sergeant and Reserve Fire Chief (1980-1997) City of Chicago Training Officer, Airport Division (1990-2001)	4 June 2015	Knowledge of storage of AFFF at Fire Station, ARFF truck washing and calibration, and additional contact information
Lieutenant Wagner	Live Fire Training Specialist, City of Chicago (1988-Present)	4 June 2015	Provided information pertaining to Fire Station, ARFF washing, FTAs, and additional contact information.

Interviewees identified the Fire Station and other buildings where AFFF was stored on the former O'Hare ARS and discussed ARFF truck washing and calibration. Relevant AFFF information included the following:

- Former Building 17 (Former Fire Station; **Figure 2**): Facility stored AFFF in 5-gallon buckets at the original fire station for use in the four ARFF crash fire trucks. ARFF trucks were washed outside the building because there was no room inside. The fire station was also used by the City of Chicago under a joint use agreement (Claxton, 2015; Meade, 2015).
- Former Building 32 (Former Base Supply Warehouse; **Figure 2**): Bulk AFFF was stored at this facility after the mid 1980s in 55-gallon drums. AFFF was initially stored outside in a fenced-in

storage area; however, the AFFF was transferred inside the building for storage since it was determined to be weather sensitive (Claxton, 2015).

- Former Building 63 (Former Fire Station; **Figure 2**): Facility stored AFFF in 5-gallon buckets and a 1,000 gallon propylene plastic aboveground storage tank (AST) for use in the four ARFF crash fire trucks, in addition to a small foam trailer. The ARFF trucks were washed in the southwest bay of the building, which drained into an OWS. The fire station was used by the city of Chicago under a joint use agreement through station closure in 1999, and for approximately one year thereafter, before the building was demolished. AFFF was not stored in this building during City of Chicago use from station closure through 2000 (Claxton, 2015; Meade, 2015; and Wagner, 2015).
- Former Drum Accumulation Area (OTH-2531; **Figure 2**): Temporary storage area for AFFF drums in the late 1980s or early 1990s during station construction/renovation activities, which is located on concrete pavement between former buildings 19 and 30 (Claxton, 2015).

## 4.2 Review of Records

The internet was used to obtain records such as historical images and drawings, technical reports, property records, news articles, and other available or appropriate information to aid in documenting the use of AFFF at former O'Hare ARS. The AFCEC AR was the primary source of information as it included the most environmental documents for the installation. The BRAC Document Repository (DR) was also researched, and documents were provided by AFCEC for review. Other general search engines were also used to locate news articles and other information. After the internet research was completed, a review of available documents was conducted at: 1) the AFHRA at Maxwell Air Force Base (AFB) located in Montgomery, Alabama; and, 2) the AFSEC at Kirtland AFB located in Albuquerque, New Mexico. All research was documented on Research Logs (**Appendix D**), with a summary of the research included in the following sections.

### 4.2.1 Administrative Record Document Review

The online AFCEC AR (<http://afcec.publicadmin-record.us.af.mil/>) was utilized to identify potential documents and reports relevant to AFFF usage at the installation. Keywords searched within the AR included "fire," "crash," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," "wash racks." Building or facility names mentioned in interviews or identified based on research on potential AFFF uses in other documents in the AR were also searched in order to identify further information on their uses, locations, and status. **Table 2** summarizes the six relevant documents identified during the search and subsequently reviewed. Additional supporting information, including the document Research Logs, is located in **Appendix D**.

**Table 2: Summary of Relevant Reports from the Administrative Record**

AR Document Number	Document	Date	Relevance
03	IRP Phase I – Records Search O’Hare Air Reserve Forces Facility, Illinois	December 1983	Identified Building 63 as the Fire Station and three FPTAs used by the former station, and described methods of waste disposal.
08	Final Environmental Impact Statement Chicago O’Hare International Airport, Chicago, Illinois, Vol. 1	May 1984	Provided information pertaining to relocation of crash, fire, and rescue (CFR) facilities.
120	Phase I Environmental Baseline Survey, O’Hare Air Reserve Forces Facility, Chicago, Illinois	January 1997	Provided information on fire stations, AFFF storage and documented spills, as well as information pertaining to site history, geology, wastewater, surface drainage, hydrology, and threatened and endangered species.
922	First Five-Year Review Report for the Former O’Hare Air Reserve Station, Chicago, Illinois	September 2007	Provided information on the subdivision of the former station into three parcels, and identified OTH-FT (Suspected Fire Training Area) and OTH-2531-2 as being in Parcel 3.
300619	Final Second Five-Year Review Report for Former O’Hare Air Reserve Station, Chicago, Illinois	July 2013	Provided updated information on land use, groundwater use, and land transfer and restrictive covenants.

AR Document Number 03 (Engineering-Science, 1983): The document identified Building 63 as the Fire Station and three FPTAs used by the former station. An FPTA was located on the southeastern portion of the former station and was used from 1955 through the early 1960s, and two other Former FPTAs were located on OIA property and were used under a joint training agreement with the city of Chicago from the early 1960s through at least the 1980s. The FPTA located on the southeastern portion of the former station (currently known as IRP Site FT-03) was closed prior to the USAFs introduction of AFFF in 1970 and, as such, is not considered to be a potential AFFF area. The Former FPTAs are also not considered as potential AFFF areas under this PA since they are located on property transferred to the city of Chicago in 1990 and not part of the 1999 BRAC action.

AR Document Number 08 (USDOT, 1984): The document provided information pertaining to the relocation of CFR facilities due to construction of a new runway. The primary CFR facility adjacent to Concourse B was to be demolished and relocated in 1985 to the proposed cargo/freight forwarder facility west of Runway 32L. The document indicated CFR #2 would also require relocation south of the new cargo complex.

AR Document Number 120 (HARZA, 1997): The document identified Buildings 17 and 63 as fire stations, Building 32 (Base Supply Warehouse) as storing fire suppressant chemicals in 55 gallon drums, Building 35 (Fuel Cell Repair Shop - Satellite Accumulation Point) as generating anti-explosion foam saturated with jet propellant (JP)-4, and Building 57 (Base Warehouse Supply) as storing leftover stock, potentially AFFF, from Building 63 after 1995, and provided information on AFFF storage at Building 63 (1,000 gallon and 6,000 gallon ASTs) and AFFF/foam spills, including a 45 gallon AFFF spill on the flightline apron on 16 July

1994 (SPL-2501-49), an 8 to 10 gallon spill of foam/water mixture at Building 56 (Vehicle Operations Heated Parking Facility - Covered Storage) on 1 August 1994, and three AFFF spills at Building 63 (45 ounces spill on 21 August 1994; 40 ounces on 30 September 1994; and, 10 gallons on 28 November 1994). The document also included information on site history, geology, wastewater, surface drainage, hydrology, and threatened and endangered species.

AR Document Number 922 (BAH, 2007): The document provided information on the subdivision of the former station into three parcels, and identified OTH-FT (Suspected Fire Training Area; **Figure 2**) and OTH-2531-2 (Former Drum Accumulation Area) as being located in Parcel 3. OTH-FT is a suspected FTA located near Landfill No.1 that was believed to have been used for firefighting training exercises until approximately 1970; however, this FTA was closed prior to the USAFs introduction of AFFF in 1970 and, as such, is not considered to be a potential AFFF area. OTH-2531-2 (Former Drum Accumulation Area) was a former Hazardous Waste Drum Accumulation Point located on a concrete area within the Aircraft Washrack Pad (OTH-2531-1) near Building 20, where hazardous waste from hangar operations was stored. The concrete was reported as being stained in 1983, which may have been representative of past spills.

AR Document Number 300619 (FPM, 2013): The document provided additional information on land use, groundwater use, surface water use, and land transfer and restrictive covenants.

Review of relevant information from the AR suggests the following locations are potential AFFF areas:

- Former Building 17 (Original Fire Station; **Figure 2**): This building was identified as the original fire station.
- Former Building 32 (Base Supply Warehouse; **Figure 2**): Facility stored fire suppressant chemicals contained in 55-gallon drums prior to distribution to other locations.
- Former Building 35 (Fuel Cell Repair Shop - Satellite Accumulation Point; **Figure 2**): Facility generated hazardous waste, including anti-explosion foam saturated with JP-4.
- Former Building 56 (Vehicle Operations Heated Parking Facility - Covered Storage; **Figure 2**): A spill of 8 to 10 gallons of a foam/water mixture was reported on August 1, 1994 on the west side of this building due to a P-2 mechanical malfunction in a turret system that was contained and cleaned using sorbent pads (SPL-56).
- Former Building 57 (Base Warehouse Supply; **Figure 2**): Facility stored leftover stock from Building 63 (Fire Station) after 1995, which may have included AFFF.
- Former Building 63 (Fire Station; **Figure 2**): The facility contained a 1,000 gallon AFFF AST and a 6,000 gallon AFFF AST, as well as two oil water separators (OWSs); OWS 63A and OWS 63B. Three AFFF spills were documented at this location; 45 ounces of 3% AFFF concentrate were spilled from the foam trailer on 21 August 1994, and subsequently recovered for reuse and placed in a 55-gallon drum (SPL-63-4); 40 ounces of AFFF leaked from a foam trailer on 30 September 1994, and subsequently cleaned with absorbent pads (SPL-63-5); and, 10 gallons of AFFF were spilled from a foam pump on 28 November 1994, and subsequently washed into the OWS (SPL-63-6).
- SPL-2501-49 (**Figure 2**): A spill of 45 gallons of AFFF/water mixture was reported on 16 July 1994 south of the flightline apron, but was reportedly recovered.
- Former Drum Accumulation Area (OTH-2531-2; **Figure 2**): Area was located within the Aircraft Washrack Pad (OTH-2531-1) where hazardous waste from hangar operations were stored on an



outside concrete wash rack area north of Buildings 19 and 30, near Building 20. The wash rack was located over a drain grate that discharged to the surface drainage system or sanitary system.

#### 4.2.2 BRAC Document Repository Review

Research was initially conducted of the BRAC DR based on an index of documents for each installation. No DR Environmental Reports (ER) were requested for the former O'Hare ARS; however, AFCEC subsequently conducted a keyword search of the BRAC DR/ER reports using the following words and word combinations: "AFFF," "aqueous film forming foam," "crash," "wash racks," "perfluorinated," and "PFC." A total of 26 documents were provided by AFCEC for further review. **Table 3** summarizes the six relevant documents identified during the search and subsequently reviewed. Additional supporting information, including the document Research Logs, is located in **Appendix D**.

**Table 3: Summary of Relevant Reports from the BRAC Document Repository**

DR/ER Document Number	Document	Date	Relevance
11-B	Draft Pollution Prevention Assessment and feasibility Report	27 October 1993	Provided information pertaining to AFFF tanks at Building 63.
315918	Land Exchange Agreement	1989, 1994, and 1996	Provided a listing of buildings, deed descriptions, and relevant maps.
316714	Operating Agreement Between United States and City of Chicago	August 1998	Provided additional information concerning AFFF at Building 63 and building numbers with dates of construction.
317262	Property Categorization Summary	October 1998	Summarized investigations completed at Building 81, Apron 2501, Building 17, Building 55, and wash rack 2531.
317263	USAF Real Property Inventory Detail List	July 1999	Provided information pertaining to an AFFF sprinkler system in Building 43.
317624	AF Form 1441 and DD1354	June 1999	Documents pertaining to transfer of the former station.

DR/ER Document Number 11-B (Jaycor, 1993): The document stated that a 16 September 1993 audit identified a 600 gallon steel tank and a 375 steel tank for AFFF located at Building 63.

DR/ER Document Number 315918 (USAF, 1989): The document provided information on the building numbers and names, deed descriptions, supplemental agreement executed in 1994, and pertinent maps.

DR/ER Document Number 316714 (USAF, 1998): The document identified the AFFF at Building 63 and at spills SPL-56, SPL-63-5 and SPL-63-6, as 2-butoxyethoxy ethanol (diethylene glycol monobutyl ether). The document also described the City of Chicago's use of Building 63 (Fire Station) after departure of the USAF.

DR/ER Document Number 317262 (USAF, 1998): The document summarized the investigations that have been completed, and provided a summary of investigations at Building 81, Apron 2501, Building 17, Building 55, and wash rack 2531.

DR/ER Document Number 317263 (USAF, 1999): The list indicated an AFFF PA sprinkler system (Code 880217) was installed in Building 43 in 1993, and a foam system was installed in Building 2917 in 1993

DR/ER Document Number 317624 (USAF, 1999): The document listed an AFFF sprinkler system (Code 880217) in Building 81.

Review of relevant information from the BRAC DR suggests the following locations are potential AFFF areas:

- Former Building 43 (Hangar; **Figure 2**): Facility maintained an AFFF sprinkler system installed in 1993.
- Former Building 63 (Fire Station; **Figure 2**): Facility contained a 600 gallon and 375 gallon steel tank for AFFF storage, and spills SPL-56, SPL-63-5, and SPL-63-6 occurred at this building involving AFFF.
- Former Building 81 (928th Supply Warehouse; **Figure 2**): Facility maintained an AFFF sprinkler system installed in 1993.
- Former Building 2917 (Liquid Fuel Fill Stand): Facility maintained a foam system installed in 1993; however, the location could not be verified.

#### 4.2.3 Internet/News Review

A general search of the internet was conducted utilizing the following keywords: “Fire O’Hare,” “Crash O’Hare,” “Plane Crash O’Hare,” “Plane Mishap O’Hare,” “Accident O’Hare,” “Aqueous Foam O’Hare,” and “AFFF O’Hare.” A summary of relevant documents/websites is listed in **Table 4** and the associated research logs and supplemental information is included in **Appendix D**.

**Table 4: Summary of Relevant Websites**

Website and URL	Description	Relevance
Global Security website: <a href="http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/facility/ohare.htm">http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/facility/ohare.htm</a>	Global Security website for O’Hare ARS	Provided information on the decommissioning of O’Hare ARS as part of BRAC-95.
The official website of the 126 <sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing: <a href="http://www.126arw.af.mil/resources/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=13130">http://www.126arw.af.mil/resources/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=13130</a>	Factsheets website for the 126th ARW	Provided a history of the 126th ARW.

No relevant documents or websites pertaining to AFFF was found during the internet/news review search.

#### 4.2.4 Air Force Historical Research Agency, Maxwell AFB, AL

The online AFHRA Records Index was searched for the following keywords: “crash,” “fire,” “mishap,” “AFFF,” “aqueous film forming foam,” “as-built,” and “real property.” No documents were identified through the AFHRA Records Index using the keywords. Amec Foster Wheeler did not conduct a file review

at AFHRA at Maxwell AFB in Montgomery, Alabama since no documents were identified during the AFHRA Records Index search.

#### 4.2.5 Air Force Safety Center at Kirtland AFB, Albuquerque, NM

Colonel Jeffrey Slagle, AFSEC Staff Judge Advocate, conducted a search within the Air Force Safety Automated System (AFSAS) and legacy safety records using the following words and word combinations: “foam;” “foam fire;” “foam crash;” “perfluorinated;” and, “PFC.” No records were identified for O’Hare ARS.

#### 4.2.6 Additional Documents

Four additional documents with relevant information for former O’Hare ARS were identified, subsequently logged, and are summarized below. **Table 5** summarizes the documents, while additional supporting information, including the document Research Logs, is located in **Appendix D**.

**Table 5: Summary of Additional Documents**

Document	Date	Relevance
O’Hare Transfer Documents for Parcel 3	November 1999	Provided a list of personal property, including AFFF, at Building 55 and Building 81.
Demolition of Surplus Structures Associated with the Former O’Hare ARFF	March 2002	Provided a list of buildings to be demolished and station history.
United States Geological Survey-National Water Quality Assessment Program website: <a href="http://il.water.usgs.gov/nawqa/uirb/description/geology.html">http://il.water.usgs.gov/nawqa/uirb/description/geology.html</a>	Visited 6/8/2015	Provided additional information of site soils, geology, and physiology.
Chicago Department of Aviation – O’Hare Modernization Program	Visited 8/25/2015	Provided information pertaining to the OMP activities and presents maps showing the new runway realignment and new ancillary buildings.

Several documents or websites pertaining to AFFF were found during the additional document review and included the following:

- Building 55 (Base Pavement and Grounds Facility; **Figure 2**): Facility stored 5 barrels of AFFF prior to base transfer in 1999, according to the O’Hare Transfer Documents for Parcel 3.
- Building 81 (928<sup>th</sup> Supply Warehouse; **Figure 2**): Facility maintained an AFFF sprinkler system prior to base transfer in 1999, according to the O’Hare Transfer Documents for Parcel 3.

#### 4.3 Data Quality

As discussed in Section 1, the goal of the PFC research is to identify potential AFFF areas where PFCs may be present as a result of the use of AFFF during firefighting activities, emergency responses, fire suppression system testing or releases, or any other activities conducted at the installation. In order to ensure that research activities were conducted sufficiently to fulfill these project objectives, a PFC

Research Checklist was used as a data quality tool which summarizes the research activities discussed in Sections 4.1 and 4.2. The completed PFC Research Checklist is included in **Appendix E**.

## 5.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The information obtained during the research was evaluated to determine which areas at the former O'Hare ARS potentially stored, handled, or used AFFF. The AFFF areas were classified as either: storage areas; handling areas; or, usage/release areas, which are defined below.

**Storage Area:** An area where AFFF was stored in bulk. Storage containers/areas contained:

- Virgin AFFF for use; and,
- Spent AFFF/water mixture.

**Handling Area:** An area where AFFF was transferred from or to storage either manually or by pipeline.

**Usage/Release Area:** An area where AFFF was discharged intentionally or unintentionally, including instances when:

- AFFF was discharged intentionally (fire training exercises or equipment testing);
- AFFF was released unintentionally (e.g. discharge from fire suppression system); and,
- AFFF was released through transport mechanisms (overland flow to surface water bodies).

AFFF areas may include:

- crash sites/aircraft fires;
- FTAs used after 1970;
- areas with USTs, ASTs, drums, buckets, etc. where virgin or spent AFFF was stored with or without secondary containment;
- areas where AFFF use or release was documented via personnel interviews, environmental reports, electronic or print media, etc.; and,
- areas where AFFF was handled, used/released indoors.

Based on the research conducted on the use of AFFF at the former O'Hare ARS, 12 potential AFFF areas were identified; however, all of the identified buildings no longer exist and major redevelopment of the former O'Hare ARS is ongoing under the OMP, which includes a realignment of the runways and a new western terminal campus. **Table 6** summarizes the potential AFFF areas and potential media/receptors identified during the research, and **Figure 3** illustrates their locations.

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**Table 6: Summary of Potential AFFF Areas and Justification for Potential Future Action**

AFFF Area No.	Potential AFFF Area	Area Type	Date	Drainage System/ Receiving Water Body	Downgradient Drinking Water Wells	Potentially Affected Media	Justification for Potential Future Action
1	Former Building 17 (Band Center - Original Fire Station)	Storage/ Handling	1961-1980	Storm drainage to Willow Creek	None*	Soil and groundwater	Facility stored five-gallon buckets of AFFF for use in Air Reserve Forces Facility (ARFF) trucks; however, no AFFF releases were documented.
2	Former Building 32 (Base Supply Warehouse)	Storage/ Handling	1963-1999	Storm drainage to Willow Creek	None*	Soil and groundwater	Facility stored 55-gallon drums of AFFF in an outside fenced storage area and inside the building; however, no AFFF releases were documented.
3	Former Building 35 (Fuel Cell Repair Shop - Satellite Accumulation Point)	Storage/ Handling	1975-1999	Storm drainage to Willow Creek	None*	Soil and groundwater	Facility stored anti-explosion foam; however, no AFFF releases were documented.
4	Former Building 43 (Hangar)	Storage/ Handling	1993-1999	Storm drainage to Willow Creek	None*	Soil and groundwater	Facility maintained an AFFF fire suppression system from 1993 through base closure, and AFFF may have been released during initial system testing.
5	Former Building 55 (Base Pavement and Grounds Facility)	Storage/ Handling	1980-1999	Storm drainage to Willow Creek	None*	Soil and groundwater	Facility stored five barrels of AFFF as noted during a 1999 personal property inventory conducted prior to transfer of the former base to the city of Chicago in July 1999.
6	Former Building 56 (Vehicle Operations Heated Parking Facility - Covered Storage)	Release	1 August 1994	Storm drainage to Willow Creek	None*	Soil and groundwater	Eight to ten gallons of foam/water mixture were spilled on the west side of the building on 1 August 1994, which was reportedly contained and cleaned with absorbent materials (SPL-56).
7	Former Building 57 (Base Warehouse Supply)	Storage/ Handling	1978-1999	Storm drainage to Willow Creek	None*	Soil and groundwater	Facility stored leftover stock from Building 63 (Fire Station), which may have included AFFF.
8	Former Building 63 (Fire Station)	Storage/ Handling, Usage/ Release	1980-1999	Storm drainage to Willow Creek	None*	Soil and groundwater	Facility contained a 1,000 gallon AFFF AST, a 6,000 gallon AFFF AST, a 375 gallon steel AFFF tank, a 600 gallon steel AFFF tank, and a foam trailer, and four ARFF trucks were stored and washed inside and outside of this building. Three spills of AFFF were documented at this facility in 1994.

AFFF Area No.	Potential AFFF Area	Area Type	Date	Drainage System/ Receiving Water Body	Downgradient Drinking Water Wells	Potentially Affected Media	Justification for Potential Future Action
9	Former Building 81 (928th Supply Warehouse)	Storage/ Handling	1992-1999	Storm drainage to Willow Creek	None*	Soil and groundwater	Facility maintained an AFFF fire suppression system from 1992 through base closure, and AFFF may have been released during initial system testing.
10	Former Building 2917 (Liquid Fuel Fill Stand)	Storage/ Handling	1993-1999	Storm drainage to Willow Creek	None*	Soil and groundwater	Facility maintained a foam fire suppression system from 1993 through base closure, and AFFF may have been released during initial system testing.
11	Flightline Apron (SPL-2501-49)	Release	16 July 1994	Storm drainage to Willow Creek	None*	Soil and groundwater	45 gallons of AFFF/water mixture were spilled south of the flightline parking area on 16 July 1994, and reportedly recovered.
12	Former Drum Accumulation Area (OTH-2531-2)	Storage/ Handling	Mid 1980s to early 1990s	Storm drainage to Willow Creek	None*	Soil and groundwater	Facility temporarily stored AFFF during construction/renovation activities conducted at the former base from approximately the mid-1980s through the early 1990s.

\* Groundwater use in the city of Chicago and surrounding area is prohibited.



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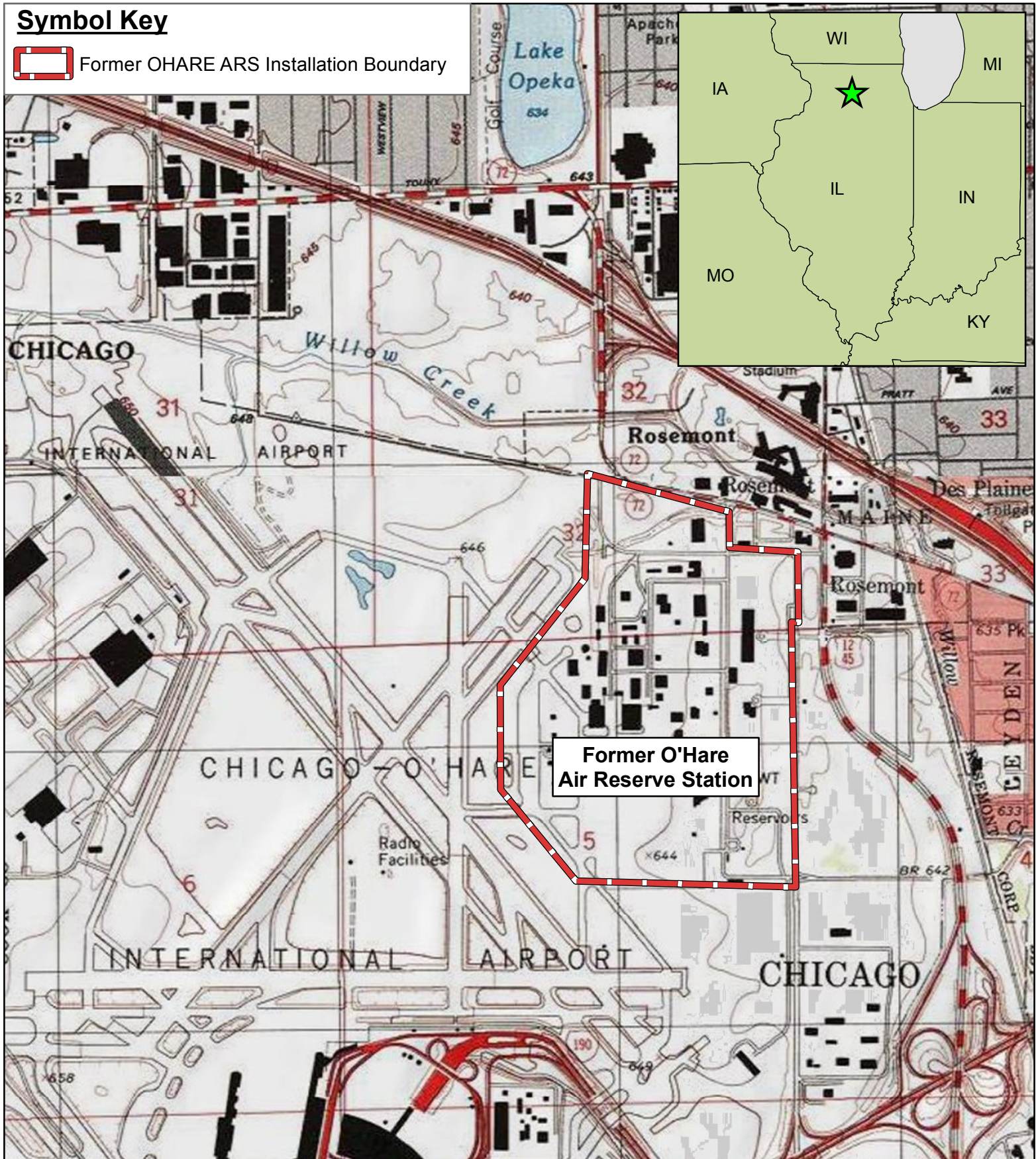
## FIGURES

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## Symbol Key

 Former OHARE ARS Installation Boundary



Former O'Hare  
Air Reserve Station

### Air Force Civil Engineer Center

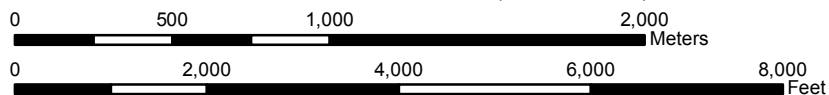
2261 Hughes Avenue  
JBSA Lackland, Texas 78236



### FIGURE 1

#### Site Location Map

PFC Preliminary Assessment  
Former O'Hare Air Reserve Station,  
Chicago, Illinois



11/19/2015

Figure1-O'Hare\_Install\_Loc

PROJ: 775290177

Drawn: MJH

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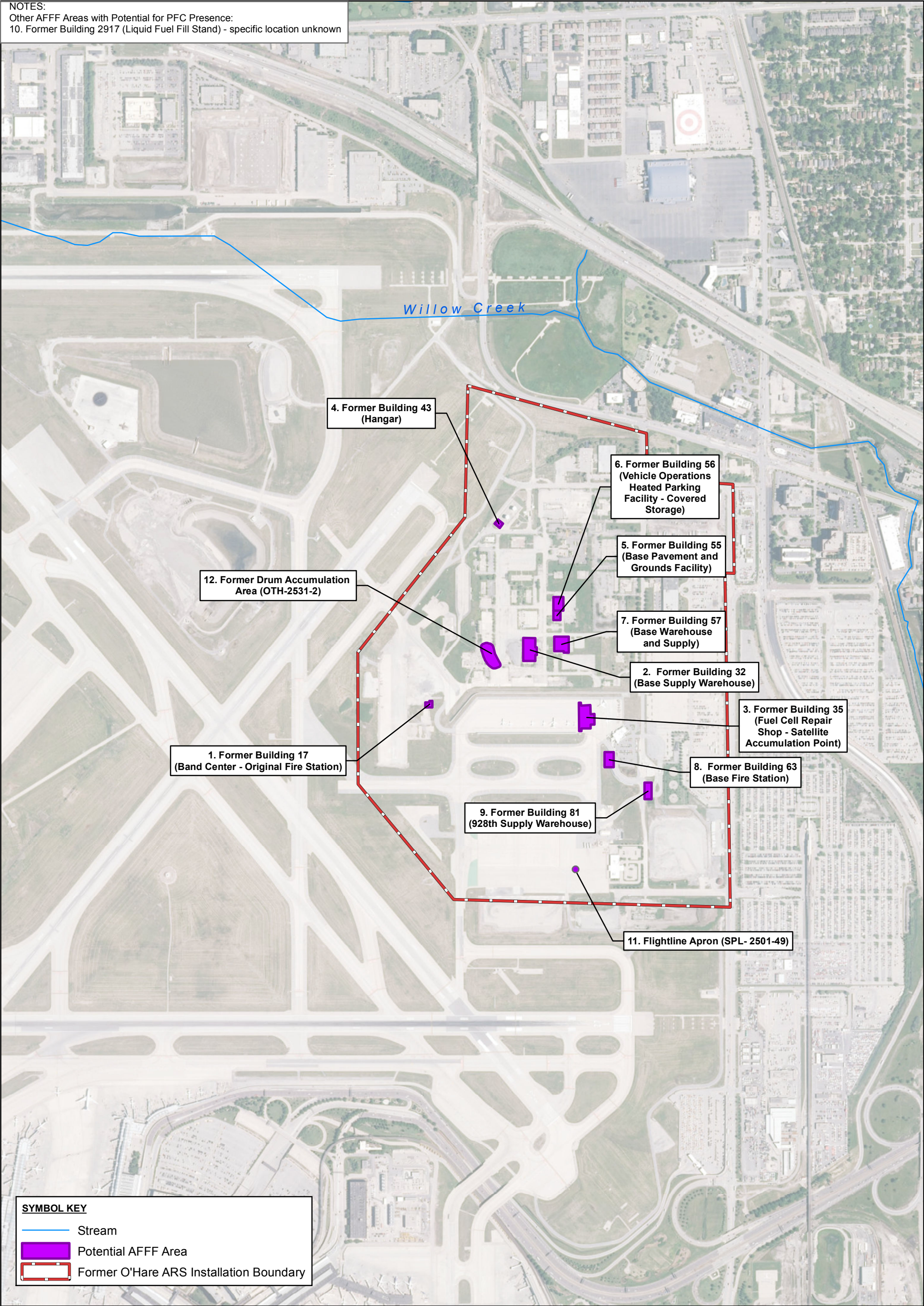




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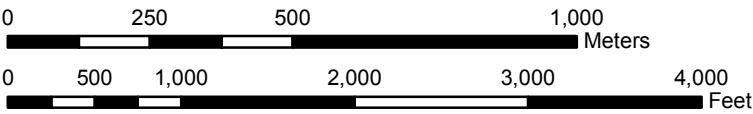
NOTES:  
Other AFFF Areas with Potential for PFC Presence:  
10. Former Building 2917 (Liquid Fuel Fill Stand) - specific location unknown



**Air Force Civil Engineer Center**  
2261 Hughes Avenue  
Building 171, Ste 155  
JBSA Lackland, Texas 78236

**FIGURE 3  
Potential AFFF Areas**

PFC Preliminary Assessment  
Former O'Hare Air Reserve Station, Chicago, Illinois



NOTES:  
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri,  
DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar  
Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA,  
USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN,  
IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User  
Community

11/19/2015

Rev:

Figure3-O'Hare\_Potential\_AFFF\_Areas

Drawn: MJH

PROJ: 775290177



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## **APPENDIX A**

### **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION ON AFFF USE AFTER INSTALLATION CLOSURE**

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### Supplemental Information on AFFF use after Installation Closure

Mr. Dennis Claxton, Civilian – Assistant Fire Chief at O’Hare ARS, was interviewed regarding the use of AFFF after closure of O’Hare ARS. The telephone interview was conducted by Martha Shirley of Amec Foster Wheeler on June 5 and June 8, 2015. The questions and associated responses are summarized below.

1. Question: Are there AFFF systems today? Unknown  
Response: The only building left on the base is Building 4, which is an administrative building.
2. Question: Are these new or AF vintage? NA  
Response: Does not know if AFFF is used on site today.
3. Question: Is AFFF used today? Unknown  
Response: Does not know if AFFF is used on site today.
4. Question: Is product left over from Air Force Inventory? Unknown  
Response: Does not know if AFFF is used on site today.

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**APPENDIX B**

**PFC GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE**

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## General PFC Information Questionnaire



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases  
Contract FA8903-08-8766 Task Order 0177

O'Hare ARS, IL		
BEC (name and phone)		non-responsive
BEC preferred contact method (phone, e-mail)		both
Installation support staff (name and phone)		none
List of potential interviewees and contact information		none we know
General Installation Information		Comment
1.	In what years was the installation operational?	closed in 1995
2.	Please briefly describe installation mission.	Air Reserve Station, last mission was Refueling
3.	Current property owner/land use	City of Chicago, O'Hare International Airport
4.	List FTAs	OTH-FT was a "suspected FTA"
5.	List hangars with fire suppression systems	not sure
6.	Are there known spill/crash sites at the base where AFFF could have been used?	no records of fires or other incidents
7.	Was AFFF stored and/or disposed at the installation?	probably
8.	Was there an on-base fire station?	not sure
9.	Was there a truck washing station/area at the base?	not sure
10.	Is there a Federal Facilities Agreement in place?	no
11.	Are there specific relevant documents available (include AR document number if possible)?	AR is available
12.	Are relevant as-builts available?	not likely
13.	Are Historic Maps of the Installation available? Specifically with Building Numbers/Function?	limited
14.	Are Shape files of the Installations available?	not many
15.	Are Accident and/or Fire Reports available?	no
16.	Is there a nearby drainage system or body of water that may have received AFFF?	not likely
17.	Additional comments?	

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**APPENDIX C**

**TELEPHONE LOGS**

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## Telephone Interview Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: May 21, 2015 Installation: Former O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Name: David Strainge Position/Rank: BRAC Environmental Coordinator

Contact Information (phone, e-mail): non-responsive

Years at or familiar with Installation (# and dates): \_\_\_\_\_

Was Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) used/stored on-base outside of Fire Training Areas (FTAs)? Did not know

If so, where? NA

Were there hangars on-base with fire suppression systems? Did not know

If yes, was AFFF used in these systems? N/A

Was there a fire station on-base? Not sure

If yes, where was it located? NA

If no, what local fire station was on call for emergencies? NA

Were there any planes crashes or fires on base? Did not know

If so, where were they located? N/A

Was there a truck washing area for fire trucks or emergency vehicles on-base? Did not know

If yes, where was it located? NA

Was there an area used for annual calibration and testing of fire fighting equipment that may have contained AFFF? Unknown

If yes, where was it located? NA

Is there an additional contact that could provide information of AFFF (name and contact info)? None that they know of.

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewer: Mike Washburn Date: May 2015



## Telephone Interview Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: June 5 and 8, 2015 Installation: Former O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL  
Name: Dennis Claxton Position/Rank: Assistant Fire Chief, O'Hare ARS  
Contact Information (phone, e-mail): non-responsive

Years at or familiar with Installation (# and dates): 1974 - 1 July 1997

Was Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) used/stored on-base outside of Fire Training Areas (FTAs)? Yes

If so, where? A working supply of AFFF (5-gallon buckets) was kept in Building 17 (original Fire Station) and Building 63 (current Fire Station) for the ARFF. Bldg. 17 was used until Bldg. 63 was constructed. Bulk AFFF was kept in 55 gal drums in Bldg. 32 (initially outside in fenced storage), then inside when realized it was weather sensitive. AFFF was also temporarily stored between Buildings 19 and 30 during construction/renovation in late 1980s to early 1990s for short period of time.

Were there hangars on-base with fire suppression systems? None of the hangars had AFFF as far as he remembers, only water

If yes, was AFFF used in these systems? NA

Was there a fire station on-base? Yes

If yes, where was it located? Building 406 (ANG Fire Station), Building 17 and Building 63.

If no, what local fire station was on call for emergencies? Buildings also used by City of Chicago under a joint use agreement.

Building 63 used only by City of Chicago for approx. one year after BRAC and then torn down. No other crash fire stations on base.

The extra bay built at the Fire Station (Building 63) was used for wash rack, office, and training area. Approx. 4 ARFF trucks.

Were there any planes crashes or fires on base? None on the military side. He stated that he did not remember any spills of AFFF.

If so, where were they located? NA

Was there a truck washing area for fire trucks or emergency vehicles on-base? Yes

If yes, where was it located? Building 17 (Original Fire Station) - outside since there was no room inside. Building 63 (current Fire Station) in SW wash bay that had a drain and OWS.

Was there an area used for annual calibration and testing of fire fighting equipment that may have contained AFFF? Yes

If yes, where was it located? Performed at the Fire Training Area off base owned by City of Chicago (joint agreement and located northwest of base near Old Higgins Road. He said the FTA was built up in the mid 1990s on concrete near the former pit.

Is there an additional contact that could provide information of AFFF (name and contact info)?

He will Facebook with someone who may remember if there were ASTs at Building 63.

Additional Comments: He stated that the only building left on the former base is Building 4 (admin.). Building 406 (former ANG Fire Sta.) was only used for personal gear, no bulk storage. He said Building 406 was virtually only a garage; however, no ARFF trucks were stored there. They did have ARFF trucks at Building 17 and Building 63. He stated that during the build up in the mid-1980s everything was moved in closer and bulk AFFF was moved to Building 32.

Interviewer: Martha Shirley Date: June 8, 2015



## Telephone Interview Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: June 4, 2015 Installation: Former O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Name: Bob Meade Position/Rank: Chief Master Sergeant/Reserve Fire Chief and City  
of Chicago Training Officer, Airport Division

Contact Information (phone, e-mail): non-responsive

Years at or familiar with Installation (# and dates): 1980 - 1997 (O'Hare ARS); 1990-2001 (City of Chicago)

Was Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) used/stored on-base outside of Fire Training Areas (FTAs)? Yes

If so, where? Fire Station - Building 63: approx. 1,000 gallon propylene plastic AST of AFFF and small foam trailer.  
AFFF stored at former Fire Station (Building 17) in 5 gallon buckets (Bldg. close to Runway 22R/west of  
hangars). Also, stored in 4 ARFF crash fire vehicles.

Were there hangars on-base with fire suppression systems? He does not know which ones, but feels sure some of them did.

If yes, was AFFF used in these systems? Very likely

Was there a fire station on-base? Yes

If yes, where was it located? Building 63 and the former Fire Station at Building 17 up until Building 63 was built.

If no, what local fire station was on call for emergencies? City of Chicago used Fire Station 63 as well. He stated that ANG  
126th and Air Reserve 928th co-existed on base. He did not know of any Crash Reserve Station other than the mentioned Fire Stations.

Were there any planes crashes or fires on base? Not that he recalls

If so, where were they located? N/A

Was there a truck washing area for fire trucks or emergency vehicles on-base? Yes

If yes, where was it located? Truck washing occurred inside Building 63. There was an OWS in Fire Station.

Was there an area used for annual calibration and testing of fire fighting equipment that may have contained AFFF? No

If yes, where was it located? They did not spray ARFF trucks to calibrate; only used a few drops and a refractometer.  
He stated that AFFF was too expensive to waste.

Is there an additional contact that could provide information of AFFF (name and contact info)? He will contact his friend and  
former Civilian Assistant Fire Chief, Dennis Claxton, and ask him to call me. Mr. Claxton is retired.

Additional Comments: STOR-63 may have been the extra stall added onto the Fire Department (Building 63). He does not  
remember an outside storage area. The fire training pit was located on City of Chicago property the whole time he was there.  
It was between runways 36/18 and 14L near its current location. In 1994, a new pit was dug and they went to propane.

Interviewer: Martha Shirley

Date: June 4, 2015



## Telephone Interview Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: June 4, 2015 Installation: Former O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Name: Lieutenant Wagner Position/Rank: Live Fire Training Specialist, City of Chicago

Contact Information (phone, e-mail): non-responsive

Years at or familiar with Installation (# and dates): 1988 - present

Was Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) used/stored on-base outside of Fire Training Areas (FTAs)? yes

If so, where? Fire Station

Were there hangars on-base with fire suppression systems? He does not know.

If yes, was AFFF used in these systems? N/A

Was there a fire station on-base? Yes

If yes, where was it located? He does not know the Building No., but indicated it was taken down long ago.

If no, what local fire station was on call for emergencies? \_\_\_\_\_

Were there any planes crashes or fires on base? None that he remembers.

If so, where were they located? N/A

Was there a truck washing area for fire trucks or emergency vehicles on-base? Yes

If yes, where was it located? He stated they would have washed the vehicles in the Fire Station. He remembers that there was a floor drain that went to an OWS. He stated they likely washed on the pavement outside the Fire Station during good weather.

Was there an area used for annual calibration and testing of fire fighting equipment that may have contained AFFF? Yes

If yes, where was it located? He does not know where they calibrated their ARFF trucks. He stated that they had 3-4 ARFF crash fire vehicles at the former base Fire Station. He said the City of Chicago is required to test their ARFF trucks once a year.

Is there an additional contact that could provide information of AFFF (name and contact info)? He stated that he would get

in touch with his friend, the Chief Master Sargent at the former O'Hare ARS, and see if he would be willing to call me; he was not willing to give out his phone number. He stated that he has been around for 30 years and all the guys he knows have retired.

Additional Comments: He indicated that the Fire Station was operated by Civilians during the week & reservists on the weekend.

He stated that their fire training area was located in a remote area near the NW corner of the airfield. He indicated there was only one Fire Station on the former base during his time. After BRAC, the Fire Station was used by the City of Chicago for less than a year & then eventually torn down due to lack of funding. They did not store AFFF when it was used by the City of Chicago.

Interviewer: Martha Shirley

Date: June 3, 2015



**APPENDIX D**

**RESEARCH LOGS**

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## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/4/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: AR03 - IRP Phase I - Records Search O'Hare Air Reserve Forces Facility, Illinois

Document Author: Engineering-Science

Document Date: December 1983

Was copy of title page obtained?:

<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/>
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Yes

<input type="checkbox"/>
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No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

Fire Protection Training Area -operated 1955 to early 1960s. Conducted geophysical survey around site to id potential leachate plume.

Fire Department - Building 63

From approx. 1946 to 1955 contractor collected combustible waste and remove them from installation. From 1955 to 1979, waste was burned at the Fire Protection Training Area. Now waste are drummed and disposed offsite.

Sometimes waste were disposed in two landfills on base until 1970 when landfill operations ceased.

Since 1955, fire protection training has occurred at 3 locations, only one of which is on base property. From 1955 to early 60s fire training was on the SE side of the base and the burn pit was construced with an earth berm and soil bottom; site is now covered by hardfill. From early 1960s to present day, the fire training at two sites on O'Hare International Airport property under a joint agreement - one was located north of Higgins Road, the current one is located approx 1 mile south of the second site.

Fire Protection Training Area from 1955 to early 1960s SE of Harper Drive and Old Mannheim Road (operator O'Hare ARFF.

AR - 03

3

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File: 17G  
D.F.



## O'HARE IAP ARS ILLINOIS

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### ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 03

# INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM

## PHASE I - RECORDS SEARCH

# O'HARE AIR RESERVE FORCES FACILITY, ILLINOIS

PREPARED FOR

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS  
AIR FORCE RESERVE  
Robins Air Force Base, Georgia

DECEMBER 1983

ENGINEERING-SCIENCE  
ES



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/1/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:	<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> Online - BRAC AR	<input type="checkbox"/> AF Historical Research Agency
	<input type="checkbox"/> Online - General Engine Search	<input type="checkbox"/> AF Safety Center
	<input type="checkbox"/> BRAC DR/ER	<input type="checkbox"/> Misc. Document Review

Document Name: AR08 - Final Environmental Impact Statement Chicago O'Hare International Airport, Vol.1

Document Author: U.S. Department of Transportation

Document Date: 5/1/1984

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

The main crash, fire, and rescue (CFR) facility that is located adj to Concourse B will require demolition due to  
relocated taxiway. CFR facility will be relocated in '85 to proposed cargo/freight forwarder facility W of Runway 32L  
and south of Runway end 9R. CFR #2 will also require relocation - it is currently located west of Runway 14L  
and will be relocated south of new cargo complex to meet emergency vehicle travel time criteria.

Notes that the Fire Training Pit site is a joint use facility used by the City of Chicago and the AF - noted as being  
located east of Runway end 14L.

AR-08

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File: 17G  
D.F.



# O'HARE IAP ARS ILLINOIS

## ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 08



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

File: 08  
D.F. 176

8 1

# **Final Environmental Impact Statement**

## Chicago O'Hare International Airport Chicago, Illinois

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This statement is submitted for review pursuant to the requirements of Section 102(2) (C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190), 42 U.S.C. 43210, Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-670 as amended by P.L. 90-495), and Title V of Public Law 97-248, the Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982 and other laws as applicable.

The City of Chicago has submitted an Airport Layout Plan to the Federal Aviation Administration for approval. The Plan shows the construction of a new United Airlines terminal; a new international, commuter, and general aviation complex; a new air cargo area; minor runway extensions; roadway improvements; and miscellaneous other development.

Department of Transportation  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Great Lakes Region  
Airports Division  
2300 E. Devon Avenue  
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018

For Further Information:  
Michael C. Rose  
(312) 694-7538  
Airports Planner

May, 1984

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## Volume One of Two





## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/1/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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<input type="checkbox"/>

Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: AR120 - Phase I Environmental Baseline Survey (EBS) O'Hare ARFF - Rev. 2

Document Author: HARZA Consulting Engineers and Scientist

Document Date: 1/1/1997

Was copy of title page obtained?:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Yes

<input type="checkbox"/>
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No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

Study Area 11 - Facility No. 63 - Base Fire Station (built 1980) - storage areas STOR-63 - AST AFFF-1. Also, OWS 63A and 63B and SPL 63-1 through SPL 63-8. Large quantities of AFFF were stored here but not used in this facility. After May 1995, stored material were considered "bench stock" and kept for a minimal amount of time. Unused portions are returned to the Pharmacy Building 57.

AST-AFFF-1 - active - year installed "NA" - 1,000 gal and one 6,000 gal AFFF ASTs: no contamination observed during the February 1996 site inspection.

SPL-2501-49 - Study area 10 - AFFF spill on 7/16/1994: 45 gallons of AFFF/water mixture south of the parking area on the flightline. R-4 crew accidentally discharged AFFF/water mixture. Spill was recovered.

SPL-63-4 - Study area 11 - AFFF spill on 8/21/94: 3% AFFF concentrate - 45 ounces at Building 63 from the foam trailer. The product was recovered for reuse and placed in 3/4 gull 55-gallon drum of AFFF.

SPL-63-5 - Study area 11 - AFFF spill on 9/30/94: 40 ounces at Building 63 from foam trailer that was leaking. Spill cleaned up with absorbant pads.

SPL-63-6 - Study area 11 - AFFF spill on 11/28/94: 10 gallon at Building 63 from foam pump. This spill was washed into the OWS.

STW-35 - Study area 10 - 928th MXS/MAFAF, Fuel Cell Repair Shop-Satellite Accumulation Point (Building 35):

Hazardous waste generated include anti-explosion foam saturated with JP-4 - area appeared well-kept during 1995 and 1996 visual inspections. 1993 unknown how much waste (D00s and D018)



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/1/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

<input type="checkbox"/>
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AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: AR120 - Phase I Environmental Baseline Survey (EBS) O'Hare ARFF - Rev. 2

Document Author: HARZA Consulting Engineers and Scientist

Document Date: 1/1/1997

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

SPL-56 - Study area 6 - Spill of Foam/Water mixture on 8/1/94 on west side of Building 56 due to P-2 mechanical malfunction in turret system. Approx. 8-10 gallons - the spill was contained and cleaned up using sorbent materials.

crash - no hits

Facility 2531 - Aircraft wash rack (constructed 1962) and OTH-2531-1 and OTH-2531-2: Site of former hazardous waste drum accumulation point between Building 19 and 30 and adj to OWSs. - Study area 10 - 4,884 SY - wash water drains toward the perimeter trench drain, which is connected to an OWS.

OTH-2531-2: Former Hazardous Waste Drum Accumulation Point. Hazardous waste from hangar operations were accumulated on an outside concrete wash rack area north of Buildings 19 and 30 near Building 20. The wash rack was located over a drain grate that discharged to the surface drainage system or sanitary system - concrete was noted as stained in 1983 Phase I. Former accumulation area on large concrete pad.

Fire Rescue Training: west of landfill area used for fire rescue training. 1,000 gal of fuel were poured on ground and set on fire for each training exercise - continued until approx 1970. Small plane is visible in this area in 1958: located in Study area 2. West POL erected in 1951 had two large ASTs.

Building 17 - Originally the fire station.

Building 406 IANG fire station.



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/1/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

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<input type="checkbox"/>

AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: AR120 - Phase I Environmental Baseline Survey (EBS) O'Hare ARFF - Rev. 2

Document Author: HARZA Consulting Engineers and Scientist

Document Date: 1/1/1997

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

STM-32: Study area 7: Base Warehouse Supply (Building 32) - fire suppressant chemicals contained in 55-gal. drums stored here before being distributed to the other shops. Fire suppressant chemicals were not used here.

FT-03: Fire Protection Training Area - SE side of base and operated from approx. 1955 to the early 1960s.

Consisted of clay pit with earthen berm and soil bottom measuring approx. 100' in diameter - contaminated fuels (aviation gas and automobile gas, waste oil, kerosene, PD-680, and hydraulic fluid) were burned in pit. Unknown if pit pre-soaked with water, how frequently exercised were conducted, the quantity of materials used, or what extinguishing agents were used. Site was covered with hard fill consisting of construction debris and wood when operation ceased at FTA. Decision document in 1990 and signed 1991 recommended no NFA. Ownership of site was transferred in 1990 to City of Chicago for parking lot (ARFF retains environmental responsibility).

OTH-FT - Study area 2: Suspected Fire Training Area - due to aerial photograph - later converted to Landfill No 1 (IRP-LF-01). Landfill is covered with soil and supports vegetation. PA, SI, RI performed - NFA approved January 1997 under CERCLA/IRP (approx. 5 acres).

Site history, geology, wastewater, surface drainage, hydrology, threatened and endangered species.

126th ANG Unit and the 928th Tactical Air Group.

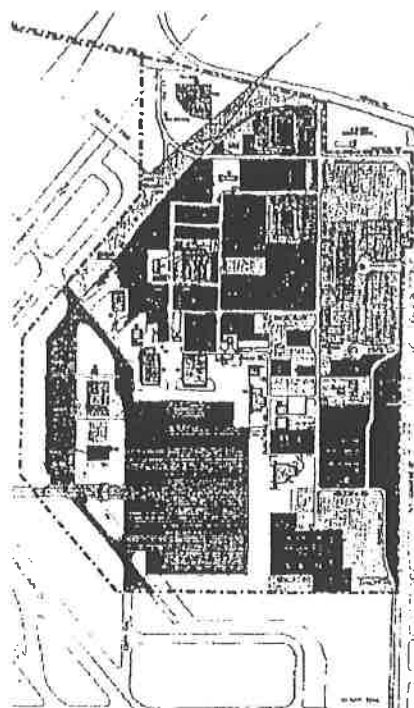


# O'HARE IAP ARS ILLINOIS

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## ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 120



120

1

File: 120  
D.F. 176



## PHASE I

ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE SURVEY (EBS)  
O'HARE AIR RESERVE FORCES FACILITY (ARFF)  
Chicago, Illinois

January 1997



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/2/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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<input type="checkbox"/>

Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: AR922 - First Five-Year Review Report for the Former O'Hare ARS Chicago, Illinois

Document Author: Booz Allen Hamilton Inc.

Document Date: September 2007

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

Spill - 3% AFFF concentrate on 8/21/94 of 45 ounces at Building 63 that was recovered for reuse.

Spill - 40 oz. & 10.2 gallons of AFFF on 9/30/94 and 11/28/94 at Building 63 that was cleaned with adsorbent material and washed into OWS, respectively.

Spill - Foam/water mixture on 7/16/94 of 45 gallon at Flightline Spot B-6.

Flightline Parking area was cleaned but record does not indicate how.

Fire Protection Training Area (IRP-FT-003): ESA in 1986 as part of land transfer between City of Chicago and USAF. Phase I 1983. Prel.. Phase II 1984/1985. ESA in 1986. Prel.. SA/site inspection 1991/1992. Phase I EBS in 1996. RI in 1998. Basewide ROD signed between September and November 2002 and Landfill 1 ROD signed in September 2005. Former O'Hare ARS 274 acres.

Site management included dividing site into 3 areas Parcel 1, Parcel 2/3A and Parcel 3. The Fire Protection Training Area (IRP-FT-003) is located on adjacent property.

OTH-FT: Suspected Former Fire Training Area in Parcel 3 identified from 1958 aerial photograph in which plane was visible south of Landfill1. Reportedly, fire training was conducted here until 1970.

IRP-FT-003: approx. 1955 to early 1960s. Clay pit with earthen berm and soil bottom approx. 100' in diameter.

Covered with hardfill and transferred to City of Chicago in 1990 - arsenic and beryllium in soil in this area.

OTH-2531-1: Aircraft Washrack Pad - Parcel 3: approx. 2500 SY washrack between Bldg 19 and 30 used for cleaning and degreasing operations. OTH-2531-2: Former Drum Accumulation Area- area within Aircraft Washrack Drums of haz waste from hangars stored here.



# O'HARE IAP ARS ILLINOIS

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## ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 922



# **FINAL FIVE-YEAR REVIEW REPORT**

## **First Five-Year Review Report for the Former O'Hare Air Reserve Station Chicago, Illinois**

**September 2007**

Approved By:

Date:

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KATHRYN M. HALVORSON  
Director, Air Force Real Property Agency





## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/8/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: AR300619 - Final Second Five-Year Review Report for Former O'Hare ARS

Document Author: FPM Remediations, Inc.

Document Date: July 2013

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

Provided additional information on land use, groundwater use, surface water use.

Also provided information on land transfer and restrictive covenants.



# O'HARE IAP ARS ILLINOIS

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## ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 300619

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# FINAL

## SECOND FIVE-YEAR REVIEW REPORT

For

Former O'Hare Air Reserve Station  
Chicago, Illinois

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Prepared for:



AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER CENTER

Prepared by:

**FPM** Remediations, Inc.

584 Phoenix Drive  
Rome, NY 13441

July 2013



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/2/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

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<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: ER-11B: Draft Pollution Prevention Assessment and Feasibility Report

Document Author: Jaycor

Document Date: 10/27/1993

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

A 9/16/93 audit indicated a 600 gallon steel tank and a 375 gallon steel tank for AFFF at Building 63.

ER

File: 11-B  
D.S.

**DRAFT  
POLLUTION PREVENTION  
ASSESSMENT  
AND  
FEASIBILITY REPORT**

**O'HARE IAP AIR RESERVE STATION,  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

DATE: October 27, 1993  
CLIENT: U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Louisville District  
PROJECT NAME: Pollution Prevention Assessment and Feasibility Report  
PROJECT LOCATION: Chicago O'hare IAP, Chicago, Illinois  
CONTRACT NUMBER: DACA 27-92-D-0004  
JAYCOR PROJECT 2768  
NUMBER:



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/5/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

<input type="checkbox"/>
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

CD-580\_315918

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<input type="checkbox"/>

AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: DR315918: Land Exchange Agreement

Document Author: USAF

Document Date: 10/5/1989, 1994, and 1996

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

Includes Land Exchange Agreement between City of Chicago and USAF. Cites restrictions & buildings included.

Includes listing of building numbers and names.

Includes deed description.

Includes supplements executed in 1994

Includes maps of areas exchanged.

DR 315 918

8 9 4 9 3 0 7 4  
89125203

LAND EXCHANGE AGREEMENT, O'HARE AIR  
RESERVE FORCES FACILITY, COOK COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS, PHASE I CLOSING: DESIGNATED  
PARCEL NO. 4A, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
(TWO (2) EASEMENTS ARE RESERVED UNTO  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

DACA 11-032-ENG-5596  
LEASE

BLANK SPACE FOR USE BY THE  
RECORDER OF DEEDS

QUITCLAIM DEED

This QUITCLAIM DEED made and entered into this 5th day of  
October, 1989 by and between the United States of America,  
hereinafter referred to as the grantor, acting by and through the  
Secretary of the United States Department of the Air Force, under and  
pursuant to the powers and authorities contained in the Act of Congress  
approved August 10, 1956 (c. 1041, 70A Stat. 121, 10 U.S.C. §2233), and  
acts supplementary thereto and amendatory thereof, and under the further  
powers and authorities contained in the National Defense Authorization  
Act, Fiscal Year 1989, Pub. L. No. 100-456, § 2603, 102 Stat. 1918,  
2114-15 (1988), and the City of Chicago, Illinois, a municipal corpora-  
tion organized and existing under and pursuant to the laws of the State  
of Illinois, hereinafter referred to as the grantee.

WITNESSETH: That for the total consideration of the monetary sum  
of THIRTEEN MILLION ONE HUNDRED TWELVE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-  
SIX DOLLARS (\$13,112,896.00), the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged  
by the grantor, and for the contractual consideration of the mutual  
covenants and agreements (contractual terms, conditions, agreements, and  
covenants) as set forth and stated in a contract and agreement (Land  
Exchange Agreement Between the City of Chicago and the United States Air  
Force) made and entered into by and between the grantor and the grantee

First American Title Order # 018679

B  
per me  
10-20-89

89499203



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/5/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

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Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

CD 580\_316714

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<input type="checkbox"/>

AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: DR316714: Operating Agreement between United States and City of Chicago

Document Author: USAF

Document Date: August 17, 1998

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

Building 63: AFFF 2-(2-butoxyethoxy) ethanol, syn Diethylene glycol Monobutyl Ether spilled on 8/21/94 at O'Hare ARS as noted in Basewide EBS as SPL-63-4.

SPL-56, SPL-63-5, SPL-63-6, SPL2501-49 also noted as being AFFF 2-(2-butoxyethoxy) ethanol.

Describes City of Chicago use of Building 63 (Crash/Fire Station) after departure of ANG.

Includes building numbers with dates of construction.

Notes that the OWS at Building 63 is AOC OWS 63B and is active and an expanded site investigation is to be conducted.



**OPERATING AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**AND**

**CITY OF CHICAGO**



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/8/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

<input type="checkbox"/>
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Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

CD 580\_317262

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AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: DR317262: Property Categorization Summary

Document Author: USAF

Document Date: October 1, 1998

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

Summarizes building numbers, investigations completed, current status.

Building 81: 928 Warehouse Supply & Equipment - sampling performed at OTH-1 as part of Phase II EBS

indicated soil contamination above SSLs, remedial investigations at OTH-1 indicates risk estimates are between

10-6 and 10-4 for all carcinogenic hazardous substances and are below HI of 1 for non-carcinogenic.

2501: Apron - remedial investigations conducted at IRP-OT-08 indicate detected contaminant concentrations

exceeded SSL. Calculated risk between 10-4 and 10-6 for carcinogenic and below HI of 1 for non-carcinogenic.

Indicates SPL-2501-2 is associated with IRP-OT-08

Building 81 built 1992.

Building 17: Band Center - sampling conducted at UST-17A during Phase II EBS investigation indicates the

presence of petroleum contamination below SSLs.

Building 55: Base Pavement and Grounds Facility - sampling conducted as part of Phase II EBS indicates haz.

substance contamination above SSLs.

Building 406 (demolished 1975)

2501: Apron - remedial investigation conducted at IRP-SS-05 indicates detected contaminant concentrations

exceed SSL; risk below 10-6 for carcinogens and below HI of 1 for non-carcinogens

2531: Pad, Aircraft wash rack - sampling conducted at OTH-2531-1 and OTH-2531-2 for Phase II EBS indicated

the presence of haz substance contamination above SSLs.

# PROPERTY CATEGORIZATION SUMMARY



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
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Date: 6/8/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

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AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

CD 580\_317263

Document Name: DR317263: USAF Real Property Inventory Detail List

Document Author: USAF

Document Date: July 13, 1999

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

Building 43 Code 880217 AFFF PA Sprinkler System - 885SF - Year constructed 1993.

Building 2917 - 880236 Foam system - year constructed 1993.

Building 25 - Security Training Facility, constructed 1963, utilities shut off since 1998, fire dept. used facility for training purposes, survey performed in Sept 1999 indicated some damage to ceilings due to fire training.

Building 39 - Dining Hall - 1999 survey indicates fire training room has leaking ceiling.

Building 45 - Fire Detection Shed (POL) - constructed 1993.

Building 63 - Fire Department - constructed 1980.

Inventory includes fire truck P-12 in yard at Building 46.

Inventory includes fire truck P-12 in yard at Building 50.

Inventory includes fire/rescue truck in yard at Building 55. List city POC as Chief Connelly 773-686-2306.

Sent By: HQ AFRC/CEV;

912 327 0108;

Jul-14-99 14:07;

Page 5/13

PREPARED: 13 JUL 1999 13:28  
 Version: 08.02.000 06 Nov 1998 ER7115

## USAF REAL PROPERTY INVENTORY DETAIL LIST

AS OF: 13 JUL 1999 SAF-MII(A)7115

INSTALLATION: O'HARE ARF

DPNB

CMD: AFR

PAC	I	T	C	C	CM	A	BH	*-----CATEGORY-----*	*-----AREA-----*	*.OTHER.*	*-----RENT-----*	COST	EST	YR					
NR	N	C	D	C	CD	D	RD	CODE	DESCRIPTION	VACANT	OUT-ML	OUT-LS	TOTAL UM	AMOUNT UM	PAID	RECD	TO GOVT	VALUE	CM
00040	1	P	4	D	54			610911	SOCIAL ACT FCLTY	1000			1000SF						1966
00040	1	P	4	D	54			730771	CHAPEL, BASE	1244			1244SF	30SE					1966
00040	1	P	4	X	54			821113	HTG FR CEN PLT	19200			19200SF				1000		1972
00040	1	P	4	X	54			826122	A/C PLT 25-100 TN	100				100TN			419848		1990
00040	1	P	4	X	54			880221	AUTO FR DTECTN SYS	19200			19200SF	1EA			3840		1974
00040	1	P	4	X	54			880222	MAN FR ALRM/I SYS	1				1EA			1000		1976
00040	1	P	4	X	54			890126	A/C WINDOW UNITS	1260			1260SF	3TN			3736		1966
00041	1	P	2	B				610913	DISASTER PREP				6000SF				232413		1966
00041	1	P	2	D	54			171449	RES FORCES AE TNG				1600SF						1966
00041	1	P	2	D	54			610913	DISASTER PREP				4400SF						1966
00041	1	P	1	X	54			821113	HTG FR CEN PLT				6000SF				1000		1966
00041	1	P	1	X	54			880221	AUTO FR DTECTN SYS				6000SF	1EA			2019		1974
00041	1	P	1	X	54			880222	MAN FR ALRM/I SYS					1EA			1000		1976
00042	1	P	2	A	54			171443	RES FORCES G/TNG S				12847SF				177748		1966
00042	1	P	1	X	54			821113	HTG FR CEN PLT				12847SF				1000		1966
00042	1	P	1	X	54			880221	AUTO FR DTECTN SYS				12000SF	1EA			3087		1974
00042	1	P	1	X	54			880222	MAN FR ALRM/I SYS					1EA			1000		1976
00043	1	P	1	A	54			125977	PMP STN, LF				1728SF				1343288		1993
00043	1	P	1	X	54			880211	CLSD HD A/SPRINK				630SF	5HD			3867		1993
00043	1	P	1	X	54			880217	AFFF PA SPRINK SYS				885SF	12HD			18666		1993
00043	1	P	1	X	54			880221	AUTO FR DTECTN SYS				1728SF	1EA			6487		1993
00043	1	P	1	X	54			880222	MAN FR ALRM/I SYS					1EA			4832		1993
00043	1	P	1	X	54			890126	A/C WINDOW UNITS				295SF	13TN			6852		1993
00044	1	P	1	E	54			121111	PETROL OPS BLDG				4044SF				768945		1993
00044	1	P	1	X	54			880221	AUTO FR DTECTN SYS				4044SF	1EA			12000		1993
00044	1	P	1	X	54			880222	MAN FR ALRM/I SYS					1EA			5000		1993
00044	1	P	1	X	54			890121	A/C PLT 5 TO 25 TN					7TN			60000		1993
00044	1	P	1	X	54			890125	A/C PLT, LS 5 TN				4044SF	2YN			30000		1993
00045	1	P	1	E	54			890161	SPT STRU					1EA			161000		1993
00045	1	P	1	X	54			880221	AUTO FR DTECTN SYS				448SF	1EA			4300		1993
00045	1	P	1	X	54			880222	MAN FR ALRM/I SYS					1EA			2200		1993
00046	1	P	1	A	54			123335	VEN FL STN				624SF	20L			858973		1993
00046	1	P	1	X	54			880233	OTHER FR SYS					1EA			684		1993
00047	1	P	1	E	54			811149	ELEC PWR STN BLDG				81SF				105268		1993
00048	1	P	1	A	54			121124	HYDR FL BLDG				96SF				65500		1993
00048	1	P	1	X	54			880233	OTHER FR SYS					1EA			157		1993



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/9/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

CD 580\_317624

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: DR317624: AF Form 1441 and DD 1354

Document Author: USAF - O'Hare Transition Office (OTO)

Document Date: June 22, 1999

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

Documents pertaining to transfer of the base.

Transfer and acceptance of military real property lists Building 81 as having 880217 AFFF PA sprinkler system.

Building 30 - Maintenance hangar, constructed 1961 - notes that Room 120 has a deluge fire system that is  
chained up with padlocks.

DR 317624



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
O'Hare Transition Office  
PO BOX 66486  
6596 N. Patton Rd  
O'Hare IAP Air Reserve Station, Illinois

22 June 99

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Phil Henry**

**FROM: O'Hare Transition Office (OTO)**

**SUBJECT: AF Form 1441 and DD 1354**

1. Enclosed please find original copies of AF Form 1441 and DD 1354 for O'Hare Air Reserve Station on buildings 1, 8, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 53, 57, 58, 66, 67, 76, 77, 81, 133, 30.
2. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (773) 825-5690.

  
DARLENE KOLASSA  
Real/Personal Property Specialist

2 Attach  
AF 1441  
DD 1354



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
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Date: 6/4/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Online - BRAC AR

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BRAC DR/ER

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AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: Global Security

Document Author: Global Security

Document Date: visited 6/4/2015

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/facility/ohare.htm>

Website provides information on decommissioning of O'Hare ARS as part of BRAC-1995.



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## MILITARY

### O'Hare IAP Air Reserve Station

O'Hare International Airport was named for U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Edward H. "Butch" O'Hare, a Medal of Honor recipient killed Nov. 26, 1943, in battle for the Gilbert Islands, it is located 22 mi. northwest of Chicago's loop.

The 1995 the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission modified the closure of O'Hare IAP Air Reserve Station as recommended by the 1993 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission by deactivating the 928th Airlift Wing (AFRES), rather than relocating the unit, and distributing its C-130 aircraft to Air Force Reserve C-130 units at Dobbins ARB, Georgia and Peterson AFB, Colorado, or as appropriate.

BRAC-95 closed O'Hare IAP Air Reserve Station as proposed by the City of Chicago; relocate the 126th Air Refueling Wing (ANG) to Scott AFB, Illinois, and relocate the remaining assigned Air National Guard units to locations acceptable to the Secretary of the Air Force provided the City of Chicago can demonstrate that it has financing in place to cover the full cost of replacing facilities (except for FAA grants for airport planning and development that would otherwise be eligible for Federal financial assistance to serve the needs of civil aviation at the receiving location), environmental impact analyses, moving, and any added costs of environmental cleanup resulting from higher standards or a faster schedule than DoD would be obliged to meet if the base did not close, without any cost whatsoever to the Federal government. If the City of Chicago agreed to fund the full cost of relocating the Army Reserve activity, such activity was to be relocated to a mutually acceptable site; otherwise it shall remain. BRAC-95 extended the commencement of the closure from the recommendation of the 1993 Commission to July, 1996 with a completion date no later than July, 1999. If these conditions were not met, the 126th Air Refueling Wing (ANG) and other assigned units were to remain at O'Hare International Airport.

### Further Reading

#### NEWSLETTER

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AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: Factsheets

Document Author: AFCEC

Document Date: visited 6/4/2015

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: <http://www.126arw.ang.af.mil/resources/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=13130>

Website provides history of the 126th Air Refueling Wing. Information was posted in 2008.

O'Hare ARS studied for closure in 1993 and in 1995 BRAC was complete and decided to relocate the 126th ARW to Scott AFB in Belleville Illinois in July 1999.

Final retirement ceremony included live speech by US President.

Base officially closed on July 28, 1999.

## 126th Air Refueling Wing

AIR NATIONAL  
GUARD

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## THE HISTORY OF THE 126TH AIR REFUELING WING

Posted 9/26/2008

Printable Fact Sheet

The History of the 126th Air Refueling Wing  
Illinois Air National Guard

Throughout much of the 20th century, military aviation units have been formed in response to national emergencies. Often, a unit would undergo a change in mission or numerical designation as a result of a post-war reorganization. Others might disband altogether. New units and missions have also grown out of the fantastic developments in aviation, changing the face of a unit by order of modernization. A unit's historical lineage then, has many birth dates and places. The 126th Air Refueling Wing is no different, as many units have been designated and deactivated through the years, many different kinds of aircraft have been assigned, and the unit has moved - across town and across the state! All of this makes for a wonderful and rich history that each member takes pride in.

## The Chicago Years 1927 - 1999

## World War II

We find our beginnings in Chicago, at an armory on Michigan Avenue and 16th Street in 1927. This was the first home of the 108th Observation Squadron (the predecessor of the present day 108th Air Refueling Squadron), the oldest unit in the Illinois Air National Guard. The original 16 officers and 74 enlisted men were mostly World War I veterans from Chicago, flying PT-1 aircraft. From this small contingent grew a major operation that moved to Midway Municipal Airport. The unit distinguished itself in World War II, performing anti-submarine patrols in O-47 aircraft from a base in the Panama Canal. In September 1943, the unit was deactivated, enabling most of its members to fortify active duty units for the remainder of the war.

Following World War II, the Army Air Forces were significantly reorganized, as was the National Guard in Illinois. The 56th Fighter Wing was assigned to Orchard Place Airport in Park Ridge in 1946. The 56th Fighter Wing succeeded the 56th FW in 1947. In June of that year, the 66 FW gained the 344th Bombardment Group (L), a highly decorated World War II unit that was redesignated the 126th Bombardment Group (L). This was the first time the 126th numerical designation was used in Illinois but this is not the predecessor of the present day 126th Air Refueling Wing. The 66 FW also gains the 168th Bombardment Squadron (L) in 1947.

On 1 November 1950, the 66 FW is redesignated the 126th Composite Wing at Midway Municipal Airport. The 126 CW is the predecessor of the 126th Air Refueling Wing. Just six months later, the 126 CW is redesignated the 126th Bombardment Wing (L). The 126 BW is headquartered at O'Hare Airport with the 126 BG and the 168 BS. All of the units now fly the B-26 Invader. The former 108 OS becomes the 108th Bombardment Squadron (L). It is the only unit remaining at Midway. It too, flies the B-26.

## Korean Conflict

In April of 1951, the 126 BW, 126 BG and 108 BS are all activated for the Korean Conflict, coming together at Langley Field in Virginia to prepare for overseas deployment. The units are in France by December of that year, beefing up United States Air Forces in Europe, as America is closely monitoring China and Russia during the conflict. These units overcame tremendous obstacles in accomplishing their mission: severe weather, poor living conditions, and a mid-air collision. When they returned from duty in January of 1953, the 126 BW, 126 BG, and 108 BS all returned to Midway. A series of new aircraft and missions were assigned from 1953 to 1961 (F-51s, F-84s and F-86s).

## Move to O'Hare and the Assignment of Geographically Separated Units

In the spring of 1954, the 126 BG, the 108 BS and support units moved to O'Hare, leaving the 126 BW behind at Midway. Also in 1954, the 33rd Infantry Band of the Illinois National Guard was redesignated the 566th Air Force Band and assigned to the Wing at Midway. This was the first Geographically Separated Unit to be assigned to the Wing. They often drilled at O'Hare.

Both the 217th Electronics Installation Squadron (now the 217th Engineering and Installation Squadron) and the 264th Communications Squadron (now the 264th Combat Communications Squadron) were assigned to the Wing at various times and eventually moved to O'Hare with the other units. In 1958, the 168 BS was deactivated and most of the members joined units in the Wing and GSU's. The headquarters finally moved to O'Hare in 1959.

## The Air Refueling Era Begins - First in the Air National Guard

In 1961, the unit received the first air refueling mission in the Air National Guard. Hangar 19 was completed just in time to receive the first KC-97 flying tanker in July and the unit was designated the 126th Air Refueling Wing. The KC-97 would take the Wing back to Europe, refueling USAF aircraft under operation CREEK PARTY from 1967 to 1976. Some 600 trans-Atlantic flights were flown and 150 million pounds of fuel off-loaded to USAF and NATO aircraft. It was the first time the Air National Guard had performed a continuous operation without activation. It was also during this period that the Wing lost its flying Group, by federal deactivation.

## SAC Alert

In July of 1976, the unit received the first KC-135 Stratotanker, the aircraft we are still flying today. These tankers ushered in the Strategic Air Command years and in 1979, the unit went on 24-hour alert status with SAC. The alert would be maintained until the command stood down in 1991.

## The Persian Gulf War

The 126 ARW began volunteer operations in support of operation DESERT SHIELD in August of 1990 until the Wing was federally activated on the 20th of December of that year. When DESERT STORM began on the 16th of January 1991, the Wing was in place at Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates. They formed up with other units as the 1712th (P) Air Refueling Wing. The 1712th also conducted refueling sorties from Saudi Arabia. From August of 1990 to March of 1991, the Wing offloaded over 31 million pounds of fuel, with over 27 million pounds offloaded in the last three months of the war. The unit returned to a ticker-tape parade down Michigan Avenue in Chicago.

## Great Flood of 1993

On July 16, 1993, the Governor of Illinois ordered 270 members of the 126th Air Refueling Wing to State Active Duty to support the Illinois National Guard's flood control mission. Members patrolled levees, sandbagged boils and provided security on a 24 hours basis. Many guardsmen aided in evacuation of residents. Medical personnel aided thousands. The unit had members in Alton, Anna, Carrollton, Carbondale, Cahokia, East St. Louis, East Carondelet, Edwardsville, Evansville, Grafton, Granite City, Hartford, Jerseyville, Murphreesboro, Prairie du Rocher, Quincy, Springfield, and Winchester. By the time the crisis was under control in the early fall, over 700 personnel from the 126th Air Refueling Wing and assigned units had pulled duty in the flood ravaged towns.

## 90's Missions: The Balkans, Southwest Asia, and NATO AWACS

Throughout the 90's, the Wing supported on-going operations in Southwest Asia and NATO operations in Europe, including volunteer support of operation ALLIED FORCE in Kosovo. The unit has also been supporting an ongoing NATO Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) mission in Germany since 1993. Other missions supported in this decade: RESTORE HOPE, (Somalia) and SUPPORT JUSTICE IV (Panama).

## Distinguished Visitor Mission

The unit began performing a Distinguished Visitor mission in June of 1997, when the 928th Airlift Wing was disbanded (the host Air

## Inside the 126th ARW

Search

search 126ARW

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View All RSS

Wing Information



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
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Date: 6/3/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARFF

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

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Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: Air Force Historical Research Agency Records

Document Author: USAF

Document Date: Various

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☐ Yes ☒ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched site for "O'Hare ARFF," "O'Hare ARS" and "O'Hare ANG," then "fire," "crash," "accident,"  
"mishap," "AFFF," "foam," "as built," "as-built," and "real property" from 1/1/1970 to present.

No findings.



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/4/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARFF

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

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BRAC DR/ER

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<input type="checkbox"/>

AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: Table provided by Air Force Safety Center

Document Author: USAF

Document Date: Various

Was copy of title page obtained?: 

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 Yes 

<input type="checkbox"/>
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 No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched site for "O'Hare ARFF," "O'Hare ARS" and "O'Hare ANG".


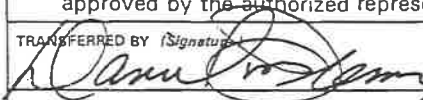
No findings.

# TRANSFER AND ACCEPTANCE OF MILITARY REAL PROPERTY

Form Approved  
OMB No 0704-0188

PAGE 1 of 1 PAGES

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operation and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork

1. FROM : (Installation / Activity / Service and Zip Code) 928TH AW O'HARE IAP ARS, IL 60666			2. OPERATING UNIT 928TH AW/DE		3. DISTRICT CODE OM		4. OPERATING AGENCY AFRES		5. DATE 3 March 99		6. JOB NUMBER		7. SERIAL NUMBER		8. CONTRACT NUMBER			
9. TO : (Installation Activity / Service and Zip Code) CITY OF CHICAGO			10. OPERATIONS UNIT		11. DISTRICT CODE		12. OPERATIONS AGENCY		13. ACCOUNTING NUMBER		14. ACCOUNT TABLE OFFICER NUMBER DPNB		15. TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION A. <input type="checkbox"/> NEW CONSTR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXISTING FAC <input type="checkbox"/> CAPITAL IMP <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) B. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BEN/FIO <input type="checkbox"/> PHYSICAL COM. <input type="checkbox"/> FINAN. COST <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)				16. PROJECT NUMBER FACILITY 0081	
ITEM NO. 17	CATEGORY CODE 18	FACILITY (Category description) 19	NO. OF UNITS 20	TYPE 21	UNIT OF MEAS 22	TOTAL QUANTITY 23	COST 24		DRAWING NUMBER 25		REMARKS 26							
1	442758	WHSE SUP & EQUIP BSE	1	P	SF	10500	\$702,254.00											
2	880217	AFFF PA SPRINK SYS	1	P	SF/HD	10500/1	\$28,000.00											
3	890126	A/C WINDOW UNITS	1	P	SF/TN	2500/5	\$580.00											
27 STATEMENT OF COMPLETION : The facilities listed hereon are in accordance with maps, drawings, and specifications and change orders approved by the authorized representative of the using agency except for									28 ACCEPTED BY (Signature) 				DATE 6-17-99					
TRANSFERRED BY (Signature) 						DATE 5 March 99		TITLE (Post Engr. Base Civ Engr. / Navy Rep.) Managing Deputy Commissioner Real Estate						29. PROPERTY VOUCHER NUMBER 99-0019				
TITLE (Area Engr. / Base Engr. / DP WO) Base Transition Coordinator																		

PREPARED: 13 JUL 1999 13:28

USAF REAL PROPERTY INVENTORY DETAIL LIST

AS OF: 13 JUL 1999 SAF-HII(A)7115

Version: 08.02.000 06 Nov 1998 ER7115

INSTALLATION: O'HARE ARF

DPMB

CMD: AFR

FAC	I	T	C	C	CM	A	BH	*-----CATEGORY-----*	*-----AREA-----*	*-OTHER-*	*-----RENT-----*	COST	EST	TR					
NR	N	C	D	C	CD	D	RD	CODE	DESCRIPTION	VACANT	OUT-NL	OUT-LS	TOTAL UM	AMOUNT UM	PAID	RECD	TO GOVT	VALUE	CM
02911	1	P	1	E	OM			124135	OPG STOR, JET FL					216090GA			385275		1993
02912	1	P	1	E	OM			124134	OPG STOR, DIESEL					12000GA			87294		1993
02913	1	P	1	E	OM			124138	OPG STOR, SOLVENTS					12000GA			87294		1993
02914	1	P	1	E	OM			411137	STOR, MOGAS					2388L			46175		1993
02915	1	P	1	E	OM			411137	STOR, MOGAS					2388L			46175		1993
02916	1	P	1	E	OM			126926	LF STD UNLOAD					40L			130105		1993
02917	1	P	1	E	OM			126925	LF FIL STD, TRK					20L			213483		1993
02917	1	P	1	X	OM			880221	AUTO FR DTECTN SYS				42SF	4EA			42000		1993
02917	1	P	1	X	OM			880236	FOAM SYS					1EA			22862		1993
09001	1				C			911142	LAND, FEE, CONDEMN	113			236AC			1	142559		
09002	6				C			921168	LAND ESMT R-O-W/T				1AC						1
09003	6				C			921168	LAND ESMT R-O-W/T				24AC						1
09004	3				C			922274	LAND, LEASE, S&L				55AC		1				1
09005	1				C			911146	LAND, FEE, PUR				30AC				36223		
09006	6				C			913384	LAND, LSN, GEN USE				3AC						1
09007	6				C			921168	LAND ESMT R-O-W/T				11AC						1

TOTAL NUMBER OF RECORDS: 355  
 TOTAL NUMBER OF FACILITIES: 164  
 TOTAL NUMBER OF BUILDINGS: 53  
 TOTAL SQ FT OF BUILDINGS: 644153  
 TOTAL REPLACEMENT COST (000): 409544

TOTAL COST TO GOVERNMENT: 66685476  
 TOTAL COST ROUNDED (000): 66681  
 TOTAL ESTIMATED VALUE: 6  
 TOTAL EST-VALUE ROUNDED (000): 6

## COMMAND TOTALS

TOTAL NUMBER OF RECORDS: 353  
 TOTAL NUMBER OF FACILITIES: 164  
 TOTAL NUMBER OF BUILDINGS: 53  
 TOTAL SQ FT OF BUILDINGS: 644153  
 TOTAL REPLACEMENT COST (000): 405544

TOTAL COST TO GOVERNMENT: 66685476  
 TOTAL COST ROUNDED (000): 66681  
 TOTAL ESTIMATED VALUE: 6  
 TOTAL EST-VALUE ROUNDED (000): 6



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/2/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARFF

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: O'Hare Transfer Documents for Parcel 3

Document Author: USAF - O'Hare Transition Office (OTO)

Document Date: 11/16/1999

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

A Personal Property Inventory indicates 5 barrels of AFFF at Building 55.

AFFF PA Sprinkler System at Facility 0081.





UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

O'Hare Transition Office  
PO BOX 66911  
10601 W Higgins Rd  
Chicago, Illinois 60666-0911

O'Hare Transfer Doc  
for Parcel 3

16 NOV 99

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION  
ATTN: MS. KITTY FREIDHEIM  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF REAL ESTATE  
P. O. BOX 66142  
CHICAGO, IL 60666

FROM: O'HARE TRANSITION OFFICE  
POB 66911  
CHICAGO, IL 60666-0911

SUBJECT: O'HARE TRANSFER DOCUMENTS FOR PARCEL 3

1. The O'Hare Transition is forwarding the final documents for the transfer of Real Property/Personal Property within Parcel 3 from the Air Force to the City of Chicago. The following will explain the contents enclosed.

The *Bill of Sale* includes a detailed inventory by building number of the Personal Property/Equipment within Parcel 3.

The *DD1354* indicates the Real Property, i.e. Generators A/C units etc., within each facility. Also, provided is an Air Force listing of Real Property Codes that pertain to the DD1354.

The *AF1441* is an official facility transfer document that correlates to the DD1354.

The *SF97's* are Certificates to Obtain Title to a Vehicle; self-explanatory.

*Joint Survey & Inspection of Condition of Government Leased Property*

Forms indicate the physical condition of each facility with Parcel 3.

- 2.. As for informational purposes, the video tapings were completed by DOA, Mr. Jim Glowa and the OTO, Ms. Darlene Kolassa. A copy of the videos have been provided to our office as of 10/99. The blueprints that are applicable to the Military Installation have been forwarded to DOA, Facilities, Ms. Susan Joyner.
3. At this time, the O'Hare Transition Office would like to extend their appreciation to your organization to enable our office to transfer this property in an effective and efficient manner. If we can provide any additional assistance to your office please feel free to contact us at any time.



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/4/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARFF

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: Demolition of Surplus Structures Associated with the Former O'Hare ARFF

Document Author: Landrum & Brown, Incorporated

Document Date: 3/11/2002

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched key words "crash," "fire," "accident," "mishap," "AFFF," "foam," and "wash rack."

City of Chicago proposes to demolish 27 structures at former base. Provides lists of Building to be demolished.

Former O'Hare ARFF 352 acres within NE corner of O'Hare International Airport.

History of site presented: three major eras - 1965 to 1968, 1976 to 1978 and 1985 to 1989. Base has remained essentially unchanged since 1989. Formerly served as site for IL ANG that relocated to Scott.

**Documentation to Support Issuance of a  
Categorical Exclusion Determination for the**

**DEMOLITION OF SURPLUS STRUCTURES ASSOCIATED WITH  
THE FORMER O'HARE AIR RESERVE FORCES FACILITY  
(ARFF)**

**AT**

**CHICAGO O'HARE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

**Prepared for:**

**DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION  
City of Chicago, Illinois**

**Prepared by:**

**Landrum & Brown, Incorporated**

**March 11, 2002**





## National Water-Quality Assessment Program Upper Illinois River Basin

[Return to the previous Description of the Basin Page.](#)

### Geology of the Upper Illinois River Basin

For a more detailed description of the Basin, see the Environmental Settings Report ([WRIR 98-4268](#))

#### Bedrock Geology



The entire UIRB is underlain by Precambrian granitic rocks at depths ranging from about 1,000 ft below land surface in the northern part of the basin to about 7,000 ft in the southeastern part. The Precambrian rocks are overlain by sedimentary rocks of the Cambrian System. These sedimentary rocks are predominately sandstone, and include three of the most heavily used aquifers in the study area. Ordovician-aged rocks overlie the Cambrian rocks and are composed predominately of limestone and dolomite, but also include some sandstone and shale. Where present, the Maquoketa Shale confines the Cambrian-Ordovician bedrock aquifer. The uppermost bedrock units of the Kankakee River Basin are predominately Silurian-Devonian dolomite and limestone, and shale (Willman and others, 1975). The uppermost bedrock units of the Iroquois River Basin are predominately Silurian-Devonian dolomite and limestone, and shale, Mississippian siltstone, and Pennsylvanian sandstone. The uppermost bedrock units of the Chicago and Des Plaines River Basins are predominately undifferentiated Silurian-Devonian dolomite and limestone, and Ordovician shale of the Maquoketa Shale Group (Willman and others, 1975; Gray and others, 1987). The uppermost bedrock units of the Illinois River Basin are predominately Pennsylvanian shale of the Carbondale Formation, Ordovician shale of the Maquoketa Shale Group, and Ordovician limestone and dolomite of the Galena-Platteville Formation (Willman and others, 1975).

#### Physiography and Surficial Geology



Bedrock has been exposed in places along the Illinois, Des Plaines, and Kankakee River valleys by glacial processes such as meltwater floods (Illinois State Geological Survey, 1973). Except for these bedrock exposures in major river valleys, unconsolidated glacial (Quaternary) deposits cover most of the study area. In recent times, glacial deposits and features have been modified by wind and water erosion (Piskin and Bergstrom, 1975). The glacial and erosional processes are the sources of the present-day landforms in the UIRB; these landforms are the basis for the following physiographic definitions.



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/4/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARS - Chicago, IL

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: City of Chicago Fire Department

Document Author: City of Chicago Fire Department

Document Date: visited 6/4/2015

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☒ Yes ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: <http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/cfd.html>

Website provided link for a FOIA request. A FOI request was submitted but no response was received as of 6/12/2015. The FOIA request pertained to locating former fire fighters who may have worked at O'Hare ARS or have knowledge of fire fighting practices and activities at the former base.



Department  
**Fire**

English |  
Español |  
中文 |  
Polski |



The Chicago Fire Department (CFD) promotes fire safety, provides emergency care, and extinguishes fires. CFD is the largest fire department in the midwest, and one of the nation's largest departments throughout the United States. It's also one of the oldest major organized fire departments, established before 1833.

### **What We Do**

- Administrative Services
- Employee Relations
- Fire Prevention
- Operations

### **Supporting Information**

- CFD Definitions
- CPAT Candidate Preparation Guide
- EMT and Paramedic Information
- File a Fire FOIA Request
- Frequently Asked Questions

### **City Data**

- FOIA Request Log - Fire



## Research Log



Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) Release Determination, Delineation, and  
Remediation at Multiple BRAC Bases, Contract FA8903-08-8766, Task Order 0177

Date: 6/4/2015

Installation: O'Hare ARFF

Researcher: Martha Shirley

Type of research:

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<input type="checkbox"/>

Online - BRAC AR

Online - General Engine Search

BRAC DR/ER

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

AF Historical Research Agency

AF Safety Center

Misc. Document Review

Document Name: Real Property Records

Document Author: USAF

Document Date: September 2014

Was copy of title page obtained?: ☐ Yes ☐ NA ☐ No (provide reason)

Notes: Searched site for "O'Hare ARFF," "O'Hare ARS" and "O'Hare ANG".

No Findings.



**APPENDIX E**

**RESEARCH CHECKLIST**

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Date: June 9, 2015

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